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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXVV

JANUARY 1, 1992

NO. 1

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

DEDICATION

Father, let me dedicate All this year to Thee,
In whatever worldly state Thou wilt have me be:
Not from sorrow, pain, or care, Freedom dare I claim;
This alone shall be my prayer: "Glorify Thy Name."

Can a child presume to choose Where or how to live?
Can a Father's love refuse All the best to give?
More Thou givest every day Than the best can claim,
Nor withholdest aught that may Glorify Thy Name.

If in mercy Thou wilt spare Joys that yet are mine;
If on life, serene and fair, Brighter rays may shine;
Let my glad heart, while it sings, Thee in all proclaim,
And, whate'er the future brings, Glorify Thy Name.

If Thou callest to the cross, And its shadow come,
Turning all my gain to loss, Shrouding heart and home;
Let me think how Thy dear Son To His glory came,
And in deepest woe pray on: "Glorify Thy Name."

- Lawrence Tuttiatt

THROW OUT THE OLD, BRING IN THE NEW

The new year is a time of hope and new resolutions. It is a time that promises change, at least until the resolutions become tiresome and change becomes scary. Then the new year will once more begin to look like years gone by. Eventually there will come a time when once more a new year is looked forward to as the time to make the promised changes.

With all this hope for change and things being different, there comes a feeling to throw out what is old, so there will be a place for the new. When new furniture is bought for the home, the old is either carried up to the attic for storage, placed in a less public part of the house, sold at a yard sale, or donated to a worthy charity. However it is disposed of, it no longer has the place of honor and service that it formerly did. The new will be cared for in a special way for awhile, but eventually it too will become commonplace and later it will become old and expendable.

The new year may mean progress. A common definition of progress is the disposal of all that is old and the welcoming of all that is new. What looks like progress when first begun may not be real progress when examined later. Many changes that would promise to push forward the work of a business, school, home or even the Church prove to have been ill-advised and actually lead to results the very opposite of what was expected. The ones who advocated these changes do so out of pure motives. They want progress, but the programs they develop end up harming rather than helping. They do not turn out as anticipated.

THE BIBLE MONITOR

JANUARY 1, 1992

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Various social programs have been instituted with the hope of helping people have better lives. The resulting programs, after some initial success, become bogged down in bureaucratic inactivity and end up a drain on those who fund them. The expected good just didn't materialize. The basic underlying reason for the failure of these programs is not the lack of good intentions or intense study or hard work, but the lack of consulting the One who can bring real change into men's lives. Progress cannot be realized without a solid foundation. There may be a desire to throw out all that is old, but care must be taken that in the overthrow of the old that the basics which are needed for progress are not also thrown away.

Many companies which have been recognized as longtime leaders in their field have tried to update themselves by adopting new logos and even new names. These changes may not be fatal, but when old style financial policies are overturned, along with the other changes, the past integrity of that company may be compromised. Many old companies have failed in the recent past because the management decided to abandon the conservative financial policies that had made the company stable.

Unfortunately, many people adopt similar changes in their service for God. Christians should desire change more than any other people, but the change should be to become more godly and less attached to the world. Too often the change is in the other direction. People desire a less restricted life and one more in tune with the surrounding world. They want to see how close they can get to the world without actually crossing over the line into the open disobedience of God.

The Church is influenced by the combined level of desire and service of her members. If the members really desire to serve and live as they are instructed by God's Word, that Church can make the changes that bring real Spiritual progress. If the members are trying to stay as close as possible to the world, the Church may launch many programs, but will fail because the old, basic, fundamentals will be lacking as underpinning for their programs.

While the old and tried should not be thrown out and replaced by the new and the sensational, it is well to remember that just because a custom is old, it is not necessarily right. There have been times during the history of the Brethren when changes have been made to bring the Church's practices more in line with the teachings of the Bible. Some of these changes were made while the Church was centered in Germany, others have been made in the more recent past. When the old is worshipped above the Bible, that religion is based on nostalgia.

As a people desiring to build our lives according to His revealed Word, we need to make sure our practices line up with the Bible.

There needs to be a balance between what is old, tried and true and the changes needed in our lives so we can individually and collectively make Spiritual progress. This new year is a good time to determine that we are going to go forward in our service for God. We need to build our service upon the Biblical foundation that will allow us to grow, change and progress Spiritually.

Have you laid that solid foundation? Are you planning to progress Spiritually during this new year?

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Omega to Alpha

The old year is behind us. We cannot change it. Doubtless there are some things we would like to change, some things we are even ashamed of and some things left undone which we regret... but the page is turned and the year is gone to shame or to blame as the case may be. The new year is before. Its dawn has just come out of the radiant east. Its record is yet to be made. It is within our power to determine what it will be.

We are at the top line of the first page. What sort of a start will we make. First, it should be a brand new... and a grand new start. Darkness and gloom come from turning to the arm of flesh and cheer and brightness come from turning for a new look at the promises of God. I challenge you to the new look! Don't make the mistake of having to blow out the light to see how dark it is. Strength and light come from the hills of God and not from your traveling companions on this earth. Our generation has literally deserted us. Only God has walked with us each step of the way.

The course of human history is never smooth. But God and His forces are always working in ways that people know nothing about. In a world of darkness... God matches the evil of men with goodness of the new life and power through Him. We can have faith in a God who is big enough to be worthy of our worship. We will need only to humble ourselves anew before His majesty and power.

A new start should be an opportunity to better your best! Don't be satisfied with a 1991 kind of faith. There are bigger and better achievements to be made in the service of the Lord.

Remember the book, "THEIR FINEST HOUR" by Winston Churchill? That book has to do with bearing hardships in a time of war. But we Christians are in a war of a different kind. It is a FINE HOUR when the best stirs us to come to a summit of life's rough road and to look up to God... to glimpse the shoreline of heaven... to face life with determination and singing. It is tragic when a person can't say that he has ever experienced this hour of victory, never has felt the ecstasy and thrill of spiritual success. A good start contributes to

a grand continuing. We need to gather momentum and move in the direction of Heaven with every breath we take.

We won't be trudging forward alone in '92. Help is at hand. God will start and stay with us. A soul in action is never deserted by the Saviour. Let's move out for God this year... Let's burn the bridges of failure and look forward to many spiritual successes. Back-lookers tend to become backsliders!

I really don't know how far any of us can climb this year but possibly that is not the important factor. How we climb is the more important thing. People travel the road of life with different handicaps and these must be taken into account in estimating our record. It will not be how many victories we win but how desperately we fight the good battle of faith that will count. A soldier who dies fighting for his cause has not died in vain. Motive is the big thing with our God.

In 1992, set your affections on things above. (Col. 3:2) You will follow your heart. What you love, you will go after. I pray that your treasure will be in Heaven. Climb toward it and take someone with you. Don't step on others but push them up the ladder of life ahead of you. Change negative and sinful habits. Quit nibbling at the naughty side of life. Learn to know the devil's bait when you see it. Your new beginning might well mean to quit! Quit doing those things that build barriers between you and God or between you and other Christians. We are at the Omega of an old year... the Alpha of a new year. Go with the One, who is in control of the Alpha and Omega... who IS the Alpha and Omega. Run well the race that is set before you.

Bro. Len Wertz

NEW YEAR'S THOUGHTS

Elma L. Moss

As we pause and think of New Year's Day, we think of another year gone. Time has rolled around and here we are on the threshold of another year.

It is said that we should not look back, but forward. Well and good, but let us look back over the past and search our life and see our mistakes. Then let's look to the future and try to rectify and profit by past mistakes.

During the last year how many times have we been seen where we ought not have been?

In I Thess. 5:22 it reads: "Abstain from all appearance of evil." It means keep away from. Some things may not seem wrong but our being there may be a hindrance to others.

How many times have we been singing silly songs? Songs with no meaning. James 5:13 says, "Is any merry? Let him sing psalms."

Not just sing them because you like the tune but because of their meaning. Think of the words as you sing them. Think of what they should mean to you.

How many times have we said something to make another fall?

How many times have we been guilty of back biting?

How often have slang words slipped out of our mouths unconsciously?

How many times in the past year have we stopped and thought long enough to think why we're here in this world? What have we done for Christ and His cause in the past year?

Have we lived such lives so as to be a bright and shining light to those about us? Those we work with and come in contact with everyday know if we live a true Christian life or not. It isn't entirely the way you dress although that counts. It isn't the folks you meet once a week or such a matter, that a true Christian makes the biggest impression on, but those you work with side by side every day. They learn to know the real you.

Have we been entirely honest this past year? Can we start a new year with the knowledge that in the year behind we have been entirely truthful at all times. If we can't then we better do different in the year to come. Maybe we're not telling lies but misrepresenting the truth, even a little bit. In Ephesians 4:25, "wherefore putting away lying speak every man truth with his neighbor."

How much time in the past year have we spent studying God's word? Or do we usually have our nose stuck in some magazine or newspaper?

"Draw nigh to God and he will draw nigh to you." (James 4:8) How can we draw nigh to God without reading and studying His Word?

(Matt. 11:29-30) "Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest upon your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." How are we to learn of him if we don't read his word and study it? We can't learn His Word by reading a small portion of it on Sunday morning and then forgetting it until the next Sunday.

Stop and think — this is just another year, but a few of such years make a lifetime, and after life cometh death.

Think of the mistakes of the past year and may they help to make you stronger in the year to come. May we study his word more and draw closer to him that we might live a more consistent Christian life in the year to come.

Selected from January 1, 1944 Bible Monitor

CALLED AND SEPARATED

Romans 1:1, "Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God."

Has the Apostle Paul set an example for us in the above scripture? What does it mean to be called AND separated? When we look at the example of Paul, a well educated, prosperous, high-society Pharisee, and how, after meeting the Lord, he so completely changed, it indicates to me that many who profess Christ, a large majority in fact, are NOT following his example.

Many would say to me, "Wait a minute, Christ is our example, not Paul." But Paul said, in effect, follow me as long as I am following Christ. Christ indeed would be example enough in the way He lived and preached, but it is important to understand the CHANGE in Paul: how Jesus caused him to completely change his life around and separate himself from his past. Paul was BORN AGAIN. He was completely different: his heart was changed. The world he once loved he now hated. He was a new man, and Christ had separated him from his old world.

Historically, the Brethren, of old, and many to this day, follow the doctrine of separation from the world. The world needs to know that there is a heart change, and this causes a life change. Paul was changed. He was obedient to the heavenly vision. He fasted and prayed and was baptized in the water. He possessed a new life. Today, we do not see much of this new life in the churches. Very little, in fact. Today very few people want to be separate. In Romans 1:1 it is clear that God had separated Paul. I believe the problem is essentially that we are trying too hard and not allowing God to do the work. We, oftentimes, try to create our own religion. We forget, "Christ in you, the hope of Glory." If we are genuinely earnest in our seeking, finding, and serving God I believe we will find God, and likewise we will find God's will for our lives.

Paul allowed himself to be used. God called him. God separated him. He allowed God to do so, because he believed God. We see the church today getting more and more worldly every day, and it is because of unbelief. One denomination, which years ago was plain and separate decided that their plain attire did not "win souls." They had to be like the world to win the world. Today they are a mainstream, worldly church, having nothing to offer sinners. If we have a problem with nonconformity it is my conclusion we have too much of ourselves in this world. Paul, who was a prosperous man, eventually had to mend tents to make a little money to survive so he did not have to depend on an even poorer church. He had to be transformed to the point that he thought only of the Gospel and spreading it to the whole world. He voluntarily went to Rome to testify to Caesar, with the understanding that his death could result. Paul, as well as other early church fathers were not afraid to risk their lives for the cause of

Christ. If we are truly called and separated, then we truly will be disciples of Christ, with nothing to intrude upon our relationship with Him.

Brother Lynn H. Miller
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SIXTY YEARS AGO

January 1, 1932

TAKING OUR MEDICINE

Grant Mahan

There is nothing truer than that effect follows cause, and that cause is sure to be followed by effect. We may add with equal truth that men do not seriously consider the effect of many of their actions. If they did consider, many actions would be left undone and the world would be better off.

No doubt some of the ills which come to us are due to the actions of others, but the great majority of them are due to our own deeds or thoughts. Our deeds affect ourselves and others, while our thoughts affect mainly ourselves, as long as they remain nothing more than thoughts; but when expressed they become deeds, and they influence those who hear them expressed. We were given the power of thought and the power of speech largely in order that we might influence others; and we shall be held responsible for the way in which we have used these powers. Men sometimes escape responsibility by blaming others when dealing with men, but no one will be able to avoid his just recompense or reward when it comes to final settlement.

We must realize that these things are so, if we will consider for a moment. And yet we so often complain because we are called upon to suffer some inconvenience or pain. Complaining will not remove the trouble, but will make us feel it more keenly. The wise thing to do is to look for the cause of the trouble. If it is in us, let us make a note of it and remember it, and then act more wisely next time. If the trouble comes from following another, let us consider that we have a better example, and henceforth let us follow Him.

In either case, whether the fault be ours or another's, let us bear with patience whatever comes to us. That is the best remedy, though it is often far from pleasant. We used to think when young that the doctor fixed up as bitter a dose as he could whenever he came to see what ailed us and to prescribe a remedy. And we fussed and made ugly faces, all to no purpose, for the medicine just had to be taken; and we took it and felt better. The sorry thing about it all was that we so rarely learned the lesson which we should have learned from it. We would repeat the cause, and then suffer again the same unpleasant effect.

Pretty much all the world is and has been feeling the effects of hard times now; and we believe that in the great majority of cases people need not seek the cause outside of themselves. They have failed to consider; they have lived extravagantly, foolishly, wastefully; they made debts which, if honest, they must have expected to pay; and now they cannot pay their debts and they cannot continue living in their former foolish and extravagant way. If prosperity were to come suddenly, and they had, or thought they had, as much money to spend as before, how many of them would show by their manner of living that they have learned anything?

But the worst cause of all was that men forgot God, did not let Him enter into their thoughts and plans; He let them take their own way, and suffer the consequences. And men have not yet come back to Him as they should. This, we believe is the main reason why conditions have remained bad so long. Not all have been guilty of this neglect of God, but all must suffer from it. The innocent always have suffered for the sins of the guilty and it will doubtless be that way until the end. The Psalmist foresaw the same destination for the wicked and the forgetful, for he said: "The wicked shall return to Sheol, even all the nations that forget God." We fail to plan with and for God, and so our plans do not work out as we feel they should; and then we place the blame everywhere except in the right place.

The medicine we need most, or the thing we most need to do, is to repent, to get right with God. Just feeling sorry for something we have done is not repentance; repentance means a readjustment of our lives, a turning away from the evil and a holding fast to the good; it means making God our strength and stay, our shield, our strong tower, our hope, our only place of refuge. People sometimes feel secure when away from God, when not paying heed to His commandments; but they are not safe, they are in the greatest danger every minute they occupy that position, for they risk losing what is of more value than all the world.

So, if bitter doses come to us, let us swallow them like men; let us try to find out why they had to come, and then let us so live that we shall not need the same medicine again; for if we live with God every day, He will take care of us.

HE CAME UNTO HIS OWN

Matthew 1:21, "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins."

John 1:11, "He came unto his own, and his own received him not."

This is the time of the year when the world has its mind on giving gifts. A few will recognize the most wonderful gift ever given unto man during this season. But the true Church should not wait until the

calendar announces that a day known as Christmas is once again here to proclaim this good news!

The good news announced to the virgin Mary by an angel was that she would bring forth a son that was to be conceived in such a manner as was never known to man and would never again be repeated in history. God the Son was to come to earth and enter her womb to be born as a babe. Exactly how this came about was never revealed to mortal man. But we know that the Holy Ghost was the agent whereby this was performed. But the good news was not limited to the fact that Mary was to have a child. The good news culminated in the announcement that "he shall save his people from their sins."

Yes, he came unto his own to shed His precious blood to save His people from their sins. But sadly, "and his own received him not." Who were the people He came to save from their sins? First, of all He came to redeem those who were a part of the nation Israel. Paul says in Romans 9:3-4, "For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh: Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises." Yes, the nation of Israel was blessed above all nations. But when God gave His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ to them as a fulfillment of prophecy "his own received him not."

John 1:10 reads, "He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not." Taken in this context, we believe "the world" could very well be included as "his own." They are not His own in the sense that all men are saved as Universalists teach, but in the sense that God is their Creator. Every babe conceived in the womb is "His own" until he or she comes to the age of accountability. But as Israel, as a nation, has rejected the Lord Jesus Christ, so the world, as a whole, has "received him not."

In a very special way the Church is His own. Acts 20:28, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood." We know that not all that call themselves a part of "the Church" are, in fact, His own. Many are a part of the apostate church which belongs to Satan. They deny the virgin birth, the sinless Christ, the need for His shed blood, the miracles of the Bible and many other Bible truths. But has the Church which accepts the Bible as the infallible Word of God also "received him not" in many ways? The vast majority reject His teachings on such things as baptism, feet washing and nonresistance. They reject His teachings given to the apostles through the Holy Ghost, such as the prayer veil for women. They appear to be ashamed to look like a Christian and desire to wear the clothing and finery of the world. They

follow the world in placing pagan Christmas trees in their homes and many teach their children more about "Santa Claus" than Jesus Christ at this time of the year. How many sermons will be preached that will tell of the true gift of God other than at "Christmas?" Even then the blood will not be mentioned in most Churches throughout the land.

As was referred to earlier, in a sense "his own" includes every individual ever born on earth. This includes YOU! What will you do with the gift that God has given? In John 1:12 we read, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons (and daughters) of God, even to them that believe on his name."

Israel, as a nation, received Him not, the world, as a whole, received Him not, the apostate church received Him not. May we receive Him and all His teachings into our heart. May our desire be to be as the shining star that announced His birth. May we be shining lights that announces to the world that we are His own. May we like the shepherds "go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass," through the study of God's Word. May we be "wise men" and follow the Lord each day of our life. If we do we will kneel down and worship Him. Not a babe in a manger but the crucified, resurrected Christ who is in Heaven interceding for us and will return in power and glory to receive us unto Himself. Then we will be able to say, "He came unto his own." It will be a sad day for those of whom it will be said, "and his own received him not."

Brother James M. Hite
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GEMS FOR THOUGHT

1. Prayer is the highest use to which speech can be put.
2. With God nothing is impossible.
3. Men are respectable only as they respect.
4. There's more to be learned by listening than speaking.
5. Apologize when wrong. Admit it.
6. Don't hold a grudge, forgive instead.
7. Respect the other person's feelings.
8. Do not let the sun go down on your wrath.
9. Keep God's House a house of prayer.
10. Tolerance implies a respect for others.
11. Truth is stronger than fiction, but not as popular.
12. If you have a hill to climb, hesitating will not make it smaller.
13. Why is it called baby sitting when all that you do is run after them?

14. The turtle only makes progress when it sticks its neck out.
15. To most children cleanliness is not next to godliness, it is next to impossible.
16. You are young only once, but you can stay immature all your life.
17. Even a small star shines in the darkness.
18. It's commendable to get in and dig, but be careful where we throw the dirt.
19. Middle age is when you finally know your way around, but do not feel like going.
20. A pessimist is someone who complains about the noise when opportunity knocks.
21. When God measures a person, He puts the tape around his heart, not around his head.
22. Time is not our enemy unless we try to kill it.
23. A golden wedding anniversary is when a couple has gone fifty-fifty.
24. You cannot change the past, but you can ruin a perfectly good present, by worrying about the future.
25. Life is what happens to you while you are making other plans.

Compiled by Brother Paul R. Myers
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OUR SATURDAY NIGHT

Master of the Situation

J. H. Moore

In early life I met a successful farmer, who said he made it a rule to push his work, but never permitted his work to push him. In other words, he controlled his work instead of his work controlling him. He planned and then executed, laying out for each day that which he proposed to accomplish. The man always had plenty to do, and yet he was never rushed to death, as we say of some men. There were times when he rushed his work, but he remained every day and every hour master of the situation.

He succeeded, for men of this kind always succeed. He had learned to think, to plan, and to systematize. He had a system that was his own, and suited the work in which he was engaged. Before he rose in the morning he knew just what he had planned to do, should the weather prove favorable. If the weather did not permit him

to carry out his plans, he had something else in mind that needed attention. People in the neighborhood used to wonder how this man happened to get along with his work so well. It never occurred to most of them that he planned carefully and then worked up to his plans.

Other people besides the farmer need to plan. The woman in the house should plan. Before retiring she may know what is to be done the next day. True, she may have so much to do that she hardly knows where to begin, but she does not need to do everything in one day. That needing first attention should be done first, and the other things will fall in place, provided there is good planning and the woman becomes master of the situation instead of the situation mastering her. People who plan and push their work usually have time to rest and gather strength for further duties, but those who permit their work to crowd them, so they can never think long enough to plan, are certain to be constantly overworked.

The Christian should plan to do this, that, and the other good thing, and then plan to refuse to do some other things not in keeping with his profession. He should plan for Sunday service, as well as for the midweek prayer meeting. He should plan for the Sunday school as surely as he should look ahead and be ready to attend the members' meeting when the day comes. He should not wait until the morning of the love feast to make up his mind whether he is to attend, and what time he proposes to start. All of this should be settled days before, and everything arranged for the occasion. In fact, he should make it a business to get everything ready for the feast.

The preacher must plan. He knows when he is expected to deliver his message, and he should not only get his subject matter ready for his discourse, but he must get himself ready. He wants to be in a condition to do his best for the God he serves, and for the people he is to instruct. When the hour comes for his service, let him be on hand with his hymns and his message. He does not want to appear before his congregation with an apology. God does not send men to make apologies, but to preach the Gospel.

Everybody should cultivate the habit of planning. The student in school can accomplish more by planning well, and then working his plans. It may be well to set the time to retire and the time to rise. Whether in school or out of school, we should plan for the amount and kind of reading to be done. Men and women in every walk of life should plan. It will make them more systematic, as well as more efficient, and pave the way to success.

One should plan for his manner of life, morally, mentally and physically. There are things in which no man or woman should ever indulge. People should lay plans for meeting and overcoming tempt-

ations, should they ever come their way. Men should lay their life plans for avoiding intoxicants and the gamblers' table. All parties will do well thoroughly to set themselves against card playing and theater going. There are scores of other things in life that should be shunned by men and women who wish to avoid making wrecks of themselves, but they are never certain of the victory without some well-laid plans that they purpose to live by, and work up to, and with such plans any man or woman may become complete master of the situation.

A DETERMINATION

There is a firm determination

A Christian must possess.

It must be a determination

For Christian godliness.

The Lord gives it to us if we ask

And if we are sincere.

He knows our thinking and how we feel

And if His words we'll hear.

When we use mildness in our talking

To warn someone of sin,

The love of God must shine from our heart;

Concern shows from within.

We should try to do what He tells us,

Try hard to walk His way;

He knows we're weak and that we offend

Sometimes in things we say.

As we bring our gift to the altar

And think then on offence,

A brother may have ought against us —

Leave our gift and go hence.

And while we are in the way with him

(Or while we still have life),

Be reconciled, then bring to God your gift;

Put an end to all strife.

Love is better than burnt offerings;

"Anger should be cast out."

It's a breach of the sixth commandment –

Tongue murder, without a doubt.

Then our determination guides us

Back to His living grace,

When we will follow His commandments

And see His loving face.

If we are unwilling to show forth

Compassion, love, and peace,

Then we are unfit for communion,

Unfit for life to cease!

Love is the fountain flowing on earth

That only God has giv'n.

It will flow from us to those around

And go with us to heav'n.

- Sister Irene Stout

R. 1 Box 160

Wabash, IN 46992

NEWS ITEM

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

It was a very cold, blustery day when we gathered at the water's edge to witness the baptizing of another precious soul. Mrs. Beverly Montgomery, and welcomed her into our midst. Can we not see that the Holy Spirit is still working in the Church?

It is a good time to say we need to continue to hold her and her family and each other up at the throne of Grace and say "Thy will be done."

Sister Ruth Speicher, Cor.

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NO. 2

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

O LORD, SHOW PITY

O Lord! show pity and forgive,
Let a repenting sinner live;
Are not thy mercies large and free?
May not a sinner trust in thee?

My crimes are great, but don't surpass
The pow'r and glory of thy grace;
Great God! thy nature hath no bound;
So let thy pard'ning love be found.

O! wash my soul from ev'ry sin,
And make my guilty conscience clean,
Here on my breast the burden lies,
And past offenses pain my eyes.

My lips with shame my sins confess,
Against thy law, against thy grace;
Lord, should thy judgment grow severe,
I am condemned, but thou art clear.

Yet save a trembling sinner, Lord,
Whose hopes, still hov'ring round thy Word.
Would light on some sweet promise there,
Some sure support against despair.

- Isaac Watts

THE HIGH COST OF SIN

"The wages of sin is death..."

We often think that the prices we must pay for what we need have risen much too much. We do not like to see so much of our income go for these things, whether they are necessities or luxuries. These higher costs influence the family budget. The necessities must be provided for, before discretionary items are bought. There is a cost, whether financial or otherwise, associated with every endeavor in life.

Just like all the other parts of our lives, sin also has a cost. There is a cost and it may be calculated in terms of financial, social, physical and Spiritual prices that must be paid. Although the price may be divided into various categories, they are not exclusive; they are all intertwined.

The financial cost of sin is very evident and is known even by the surrounding world. The world around us speaks of mistakes, diseases and ignorance rather than of sin. But there is a recognition of the cost of these various activities. There is a great deal of tax money spent on the sins of this nation. It is thought to be the government's responsibility to provide medical help for those afflicted with conditions brought upon themselves through the ravages of sin. The price associated with the sin of drunkenness is staggering. The money spent on the regulation of the liquor industry is necessary and enormous. The price of insurance for each driver is increased because of drunken drivers' misdeeds. The cost of wrecked vehicles and the hospitalization of injured victims is overwhelming. Adding the financial cost of the sin of drunkenness to the cost of the sin of smoking creates an enormous sum. There are many other sins that

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are very costly, just in a financial sense. These costs are spread to each of us through taxes, insurance and reduced services for all. Much of the crisis in medical care today can be traced to the high financial cost of sin.

There is a high price that society has to pay for sin that goes beyond the financial price. The sin of abortion causes the loss of life. No matter how infirm that life might be, it still has a benefit for the community. The aborted life may have been that of a future doctor, scientist or minister, all needed for the welfare of society. When murder is condoned, life becomes less valuable within the community. When adultery and fornication become the norm of the community's values and they are openly boasted of, there is a social price to pay in the weakening of marriage and of family ties. The crisis in family life in the world today comes from the social cost of sin.

The physical effects of sin are all too well known. The effects of alcohol are clearly shown not only in the junkyard but also in the hospital. Not all of its effects are through the accidents caused by drunkenness, some are effects upon the internal organs. The diseases that affect the drunkard lead to many hospitalizations. Perhaps even more evident is the effect of tobacco upon the human body. Lung cancer has become almost epidemic. As the number of male smokers decrease, the number of female smokers increases bringing with it an increase in not only lung cancer in women but also other effects, especially in their reproductive systems. The sins of mothers-to-be are visited upon their unborn children. The drinking and smoking causes many problems for her newborn infant. Many other sins cause other physical ills that affect many today. Too often these effects are viewed as diseases rather than as the result of sin.

The highest cost of sin is not the financial, social or physical price but the Spiritual price that sin exacts. God hates sin. God does love the sinner and desires to be able to fellowship with him, but He still identifies that sin with the one who does it, so the desired fellowship is broken. The lack of fellowship with God is a form of death. It is a separation from God. This is the highest wages that sin can pay. That is a high price for a person to pay so he might enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. That price is not only for time but also for eternity. If those fellowship-breaking sins are not repented of, they will bar sinners from Heaven. Heaven is a place of perfection, unlike this world, so there is no place for sin there.

If there were no remedy for sin, the people of this world would be in a very bad situation, but God has provided a cure for sin, His Son, Jesus Christ. God paid the highest possible price for sin; He gave His Son for our sins so we could have fellowship with Him.

Sin exacts a high price in our daily lives, affecting our lives, financially, socially, physically and Spiritually. God wants to bare the price, will you let Him?

PROMOTING PARENTAL MATURITY

One of the utmost concerns of Christian parents should be the spiritual maturity and development of their children. Parental qualities, whether they be good or bad, are usually reproduced in the next generation. "As is the mother, so is her daughter..." (Ezekiel 16:44). A good example is a highly effective influence.

We, then, as parents need to cultivate in our own lives those things which would have the most consistent and effective influence on our children. We should be guided by eternal values rather than fleshly impulses. The discipline of self-denial is a key to attaining spiritual blessings. The things for which one will deny self, indicate his sense of values and his level of maturity. Esau sold his birthright for one morsel of meat. He squandered an irreplaceable treasure to satisfy his hunger impulse. The prodigal son boldly demanded his inheritance, then wasted it to satisfy his carnal appetites. These mistakes have been repeated again and again through time and in this present day. Moses, in contrast, was a shining example of one who was guided by eternal principles. He esteemed the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt. (Heb. 11:25-26). He recognized that sin's pleasures are only temporary, and chose the path that led to eternal rewards. His decision indicates his spiritual maturity.

Parental values are tested in many ways. When a child needs discipline, do we consider the long-range implications, or do we bow to fleshly pity to spare the rod and spoil the child? Do we dress our little children in fashionable clothing and still expect them to embrace a separated life when they grow up? Does impulse buying keep us poor? Do we strive for luxury and ease, all the while trying to explain to our children that we are only strangers and pilgrims here on earth? If so, we are no more mature than Esau or the prodigal son. Nor should we expect our children to come through with an appreciation for eternal values.

We, as parents, must learn to accept circumstances and persons as they are. Some times unpleasant circumstances can be improved, but many times these matters go beyond our ability and responsibility to change. To be able to adapt or respond without complaining or being critical is a mark of parental maturity. What are my children learning from me? Do I belittle my spouse and extol the abilities of others? Do I speak derogatorily about civil leaders? Do I complain about the weather? Let us accept the motto that says, "Lord, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

God has vested parents with authority in the home. This authority must be properly exercised, without the ego becoming inflated.

Parents should not feel guilty about exercising their authority in the home, but it must be used with firmness and love at all times.

Children tend to view leaders as being perfect. The Lord has established leadership in the church. For us to fulfill the cause of Christ, we must be in submission to God-appointed leaders. If parents display the "who are you to tell me what to do" attitude toward authority, they undermine their own authority in the home, to the spiritual detriment of their posterity.

We must accept criticism or counsel in a humble manner. As responsibility increases, so also does the potential for criticism. No one is beyond the need of correction and direction. We should not respond to criticism with counter criticism. To say, "If everything I do is wrong, then I won't do anything," or to blame others for our faults, are immature responses as old as Adam. To respond to criticism with "I'm sorry, I was wrong, pray for me, thank you for your concern" reveals spiritual depth. To admit that we have not yet arrived at full maturity is a mark of maturity. (Phil. 3:12).

We must know what we believe in and stand for it. Joshua said, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." When we have the conviction of Joshua, it will enable us to resist the innovations of the changing times such as the fads of the world and the winds of doctrine afloat today, and will motivate us to uphold the tried and proven practices of the church. Personal conviction and commitment to Biblical principles are essential for our children to be rooted and grounded upon the Rock, Jesus Christ.

Maturity is promoted by parents who find loving service more satisfying than being loved and served. The desire to be catered to and waited on is an expression of the self-life. Jesus came to earth as a servant, not to be served. His joy and purpose was to do His Father's will. We are to have the mind of Christ. Do our children see in us this willingness to sacrifice for the benefit of others? Are we reproducing this quality in their lives?

We must have a positive outlook through faith in God and we must also fear Him for this is the whole duty of man. This faith will encourage the discouraged, cheer the weary in heart, lift up the hands that hang idle, and strengthen the feeble knees. It is a faith that radiates the love of God into all horizontal relationships and endeavors of our family and spiritual life.

May we, as parents, have the kind of faith that will enable us to say to our children, "Follow me as I follow Christ."

Brother Paul L. Stump
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ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Guilt leading to Depression

We will cover the area of guilt leading to depression only lightly in this article as it is a very large and complicated subject. I do, however, want you to know that God cares about this area of your lives and gives you hope and solutions to this and all problems.

As we look at guilt causing depression, we understand that perfectionism is a major problem here. Guilt feelings usually develop when we fail to meet the expectations that we set for ourselves or that others set for us. Many people set unrealistic goals for themselves and have become depressed because they are unable to successfully reach them.

At such times, a guilt complex may appear which can only be removed by a strong faith in God. The Bible says that God has not given us the spirit of fear... but of a sound mind. (II Tim. 1:7)

Unconfessed sin can create great guilt feelings. The continual practice of any sin, whether uncontrolled perfection or whatever will either make us physically or emotionally sick and will leave us spiritually calloused.

Feelings of depression grow when our peace of mind is diminished. This is out of the will of God for our lives. He desires that we experience full peace and joy... both of which are beyond human comprehension. How can we handle our feelings of depression or those that lead us to depression.

1. Work to gain insight into the nature of your problem. There are usually some real problems in back of the symptom.

2. Be willing to discuss freely your need with an understanding CHRISTIAN person... preferably of the same gender. Search for the cause of your problem.

3. Try to learn what is going on in your mind that controls your emotions. Understanding our feelings is very important.

4. Instead of self-pity or self-punishment, learn to accept unpleasant situations as a normal part of living. Everyone experiences them.

5. When threatening circumstances arise, seek a remedy and be willing to follow through to completion through spiritual means.

6. Know and understand that God loves you and will accept you even though you may feel unworthy.

7. Seek to form a vital relationship with Jesus Christ, YOUR PERSONAL SAVIOUR AND LORD.

8. Believe in prayer and in the power of the Holy Spirit to help you follow Christ daily in life.

9. Apply the PROMISES OF GOD'S WORD to all of your needs. Accept them. Thank God for them.

10. Be willing to seek Christian professional help when necessary.

And remember, God is a God of miracles. Allow Him to work a miracle in your life. Pray about everything and involve yourself in a "campaign" of thanksgiving for the great things He continues to do in your life. If you do this, you will experience God's peace, which is far more wonderful than we can ever understand. (Phil. 4:6-7)

God desires for you to be free... free to be the person in Him that you should be and that you want to be. Let go and let God.

Brother Len Wertz

AN OFFER NOT ALTERED BY TIME

"Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price."

It has been well said, "Time waits for no man." Every man, woman, boy and girl is allotted twenty four hours a day and three hundred sixty five days a year (with the exception of leap year). While modern medicine has allowed many individuals to live longer lives, very few ever live to celebrate their one hundredth birthday. Many individuals are striving to fill their allotted time with as much pleasure as they can possibly put into a busy schedule. But in order to achieve this carnal pleasure there is a need for money. Therefore they are put on a never ending "merry-go-round" of working many hours while trying to "live it up."

A part of the reality of time is physical thirst. There is also the thirst in many lives for fame, fortune and a life of happiness. Many lives are ruined by a thirst for hard liquor and beer. Sadly, it seems so very few have a spiritual thirst today. But for those who do, God's offer given through the prophet Isaiah is not altered by time. "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters." This thirst goes beyond our everyday need of liquids. It goes beyond the thirst we experience after eating a good meal. It even goes beyond the thirst we feel after eating something extra salty. This is the thirst of an individual with parched lips, a tongue that feels thick and a mouth that is "dry as dust." All too many seek God as they seek a can or bottle of soft drink. More for their pleasure than for a real need to quench their thirst. They experience "religion" but they never experience a drink of the living water found in Jesus Christ. Their thirst for worldly pleasures is never slackened.

Another reality of time is physical hunger. Next to the need of water, our most important need is food. God's timeless offer is "he that hath no money, come ye, buy, and eat." Many of us "live to eat in place of eating to live." Very few of us know what real physical hunger is. It would do many of us good to skip a meal once in a while. We frequent restaurants and fast food establishments. While most in this country have more than enough to eat, they are starving spiritually.

Then there are those who seek a smorgasbord religion. They are not content with the milk and meat of the Word of God but feel a need to add the tempting delicacies provided by human wisdom.

In addition to these there are those who desire a fast food religion. For them "one meal" on Sunday morning is enough. They have no personal time with their Lord in prayer and study of His Word. In John 6:35 we read, "And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life; he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." Just as eating one meal or drinking one glass of water will not be sufficient for a lifetime of need, so a one time coming to Him and a one time believing on Him will not suffice.

The last part of God's offer not altered by time is "come, buy wine and milk without money and without price." Wine is symbolic of the Holy Spirit. This is why we do not believe that the wine of the Bible that is useful, including the communion wine, is a fermented drink. The Holy Spirit will give us the strength we need to live a life acceptable to God. The Bible teaches that the initial gift of the Holy Spirit is connected with the time of immersion baptism. We are aware of the fact that at the time Isaiah, through the Holy Spirit, wrote this, baptism was not yet an established practice. Yet we realize that God is eternal and when He speaks yesterday is as today. The Holy Spirit will also give us the peace and joy that makes life bearable.

Wine is also a symbol for the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Many desire the blessing of God on their lives but want nothing to do with a blood sacrifice. But in Hebrews 9:22 we read, "... and without shedding of blood is no remission." We believe the shedding of blood was instituted by God in the garden of Eden when He shed innocent blood to clothe Adam and Eve. Likewise we are clothed with the righteousness of Christ by accepting His shed blood on Calvary, which was the final blood sacrifice.

Milk is a symbol for the word of God. It is the part of the Word that is useful for new born babes in Christ. Perhaps this is the reason that many never mature in Christ and many die spiritually. They spend their time digesting worldly magazines and books and never spend time feeding on the precious milk of the word.

Our initial salvation is without money and without price to us. Yet it cost the Lord Jesus Christ the agony of the cross. No human efforts

or works will aid us in entering into Heaven. Yet an individual must count the cost of salvation. It will mean giving up all our worldly pleasures and desires. It may also include times of persecution. In fact some type of persecution is promised! But the Lord Jesus Christ has promised that He will never leave us nor forsake us. With Him even persecution can be a joy and, in a sense, without price. Certainly no price tag can be put on eternal life.

Will you not accept this offer not altered by time? If you are unsaved repent, believe and be baptized (by trine immersion). If you are saved, accept God's offer to take you through the trials and tribulations of life. Reading and obeying God's Word will bring true joy and peace in your life.

Brother James M. Hite
816 E. Birch St.
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SIXTY YEARS AGO

January 15, 1932

NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST

Joseph H. Stark

"For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." (Rom. 1:16).

This is the conclusion of the Apostle Paul in regard to the mission He was chosen to perform to advance the cause of the Master to establish a church wherein mankind may find relief to the weary soul and be sheltered from the stormy blast of sin and woe — a sheepfold wherein the good shepherd is gently calling and they hear His voice. Yes, the Master Himself says: "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for his sheep. But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming and leaveth the sheep and fleeth, and the wolf catches them and scattereth the sheep. But the Master repeats the same story, "I am the good shepherd and know my sheep and am known of mine." Neither was He ashamed of His Father or the Father of Him.

A few were saved in Noah's ark, while many millions drowned. So it will be. Fame, wealth, honor, influence of numbers, and the glory one may receive of all, is but dross in the sight of God, and there is but one safe and sure premise to stand upon that will stand the final test, the "Word of truth", the principles of right as did our Savior. He never yielded one point, though tried in every way. He could have easily gained the praise and honor of men if He would have yielded

and catered to their wishes and demands, but, no, He rebuked those who tried to bribe Him in various ways, and He stood firm though some had hoped He would yield and prefer the praise of men and become their king. But all such effort was in vain, as He was not here in the world to please men as one of the world and He tells His disciples also: "Ye are not of the world even as I am not of the world", but such who love the praise of men more than the praise of God have their reward here on earth; they need not expect any more, for Jesus says: "What shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Wealth, honor, fame and all the glory and influence of men one may be able to gain may only be a hindrance to gain the promised rest, and cause us to be ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, the saving power that we all so much need. Jesus says: "Whosoever, therefore shall be ashamed of me and my word in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Dear reader, let us solemnly and sincerely ask ourselves the question: are we ashamed of Jesus and His Word, or the doctrine and rules given by the church to observe? This will tell the story and decide whether we may enjoy the presence of Jesus and the glory of the Father in a coming day or whether He (Jesus) will be ashamed of us. So no one need be in the dark while going through this life. If we love Jesus we will keep His commandments and be obedient to His church He established. But if we are "lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God" the danger signal gives warning of sure destruction. Our text involves five important features in conveying the merits of the expression intended. As named, the Gospel of Christ, power of God, salvation and believing. All are very important in harmony with Jesus and His Word. The Gospel of Christ is the only means of saving grace that can ever save mankind for it is the power of God (not man) unto salvation, a blessing all mankind will some time desire, for salvation is a sweet song the Christian pilgrim may finally sing when delivered from these earthly tabernacles amid sin and woe in that happy beyond. But last but not least we must "believe that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. He that believeth not shall be damned." No language could express the result of what our final destiny may be more clearly. So it will be wise for all to feel like the apostle did, not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, or any virtues involved therein and outlived by His church as needful observances to obey that the cause of Christ may draw sinners to a sense of duty.

So we believe the same mind and spirit was prompting Paul in the expression, "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ." Our Savior tells of some who no doubt were ashamed. They could not be depended upon. He calls them hirelings, and when the wolf or any

destructive forces come in the flock they will flee perhaps in ambush or the shield of silence till danger is over and the flock which they were to protect has suffered from violence of evil influences. The wages of money may not always be that such characters are after. It may be honor, the praise of men or influence after the manner of the world. Or it might be because he sees the wolf has overcome a good many and fears to come out to protect a few left who stand firm for the truth and right principles rather than give way to gain the praise and honor of men as shown by Jesus, the good shepherd, who has said, "Fear not, little flock: for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." And the poet tells of the danger when we depend on numbers or other influences aside from the doctrine of Jesus as taught in His Word and confirmed by the apostles: "But numbers are no mark, That men will right be found."

To repent and believe the Gospel and thus hide under the shadow of the wing of God as given through Jesus Christ to shield the Christian pilgrim from sin and woe till the warfare is over and the flesh subdued, with the spirit predominating, to divine acceptance.

In conclusion, I will add: Let us be wise unto salvation, speaking and doing that which harmonizes with sound doctrine in simplicity and humbleness of mind, preferring one another in love. Let selfishness, jealousy and determination to have our own way be ground to dust, for they are carnal and of the earth's evil environments and serious enemies to love the union.

Remember the rich man, he fared sumptuously every day and so selfish and nice in his surroundings. There was no place for the poor beggar in his home, but finally there was a place of rest found for the poor man in Abraham's bosom from his former misery. But, oh! the sad result of the final abode of the rich man because of his former conduct toward Lazarus. He was ashamed of the poor beggar, he did not want to be bothered with him. He had no respect for the Gospel of Christ, for it says: "Do good unto all men. God loves a cheerful giver", and Jesus did all the good He could, although He had no large comfortable home and possessions to care for him. So let us be careful with the means God has blessed us with and only given in our care to "use and not abuse" or harbor up in selfish way to our eternal destruction. For all it cannot save us, but the power of God in doing good with it may be a means of saving grace we all so much need in a coming day. In heaven we believe there will be no poor, they need not be ashamed of one another and Jesus the Master who will serve them. None will need beg for crumbs or a place to stay. There will be no independent ones to rule over weaker ones; no, no. Love will reign supreme and all unpleasant conduct will be unknown there, for God is love and Jesus is the same and the power thereof will illuminate the whole habitation with lovely influence. "Blessed are the

poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." This kind of poverty will make one rich in the things that pertain to godliness; alive in Christ Jesus. Keeping in mind these earthly possessions are not our own but to use and not abuse, giving God the praise for all and not do as the rich man did, let the mammon of unrighteousness be the means of our future condemnation, but instead love one another in deed and in truth with a pure heart fervently. Oh! that will be worthwhile, for pilgrims want to enjoy the heavenly home, where all is lovely, joy and peace.

A glorious, happy time
Will be for those who meet
Their friends so pure and kind
To walk the golden street.

Praise God for such a hope
That goes beyond all space,
'Tis where the Gospel spake
Of love's sweet fond embrace.

A happy thought it is
To Christian pilgrims true
To know of such a bliss
When toils and cares are o'er.

Thus onward, one by one,
We pass the years of time,
'Till God will call us home
To view the heavenly clime.

GEMS FOR THOUGHT

1. Hope is faith holding our hand in the dark.
2. He who would climb and soar aloft, must needs keep ever at His side.
3. Can one tread upon hot coals and his feet be not burned?
4. The greatest homage we can pay to truth is to use it.
5. We love Him because He first loved us.
6. If you would imitate Christ, take sin by the throat and the sinner by the hand.
7. Our thoughts are the epoch in our lives; all else is as but a journal of the winds that blow while we were here.

8. When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom.
9. To profit from good advice requires more wisdom than to give it.
10. Look to today for reality for yesterday is but a dream.
11. A wise son heareth his father's instruction: but a scorner heareth not rebuke.
12. A spilled drink flows in the direction of the most expensive object.
13. Measure wealth, not by the things you have, but by the things you have for which you would not take money.
14. Evil pursueth sinners: but the righteous good shall be repayed.
15. There is no greater invitation to be loved, than loving first.
16. There are no pockets in a shroud.
17. It is better to have some hate you for telling the truth, than to adore you for telling a lie.
18. The wages for sin are always paid in full.
19. Where no fuel is, there the fire goeth out.
20. A faithful witness will not lie.
21. A cleansed soul is, in the sight of God as if he had never been stained by sin.
22. Open rebuke is better than secret love.
23. A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches.
24. If thou faint on the day of adversity, thy faith is weak.

Compiled by Brother Paul R. Myers
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OUR SATURDAY NIGHT

Seeing An Editor
J. H. Moore

When a boy, twelve years old, and living in Missouri, I had the privilege of seeing my first editor. The country was then new, conveniences few and neighbors all poor, but very kind. A log schoolhouse, out in the woods, about two miles away, and presided over by one who had some knowledge of the famous three Rs, was the seat of learning for the rising generation occupying a territory nearly if not quite five miles square. To attend this institution of learning three months out of twelve was regarded as a rare privilege in those pioneer days.

We had but few meetings; Sunday Schools were unknown and a newspaper, now and then, was most highly prized. Its contents were read from end to end, and commented on for weeks. But there finally came into the neighborhood a man, who was well dressed, and rode a pony that could outwalk anything on the road. The man was from Arkansas, so it was reported, and was actually an editor of a paper. I had traveled some, going first from Virginia to Illinois, then to Missouri, and thought I had seen a few things, but never before in my life had I seen a living, moving editor. I eyed him from head to foot, studied his ways, noticed how he walked, talked and rode. I studied his face, looked into his keen, dark eyes, took special note of his black hair, and finally settled down to the conclusion that he must be a very "smart" man because he had a high forehead. Never before or since have I studied a man as I studied that editor.

I believed him to be a man of rare information, and in my boyish way of looking at him, I thought he must have all knowledge at his command. And then the idea that I had seen an editor, and that he had actually been at our house and talked with my father and mother! To see and experience such a thing was to me the opportunity of a lifetime. And then to think that the tall man, who wore good clothes and rode that nice pony, was "smart" enough to edit a paper! I wondered how much he had to know to write what we in those days saw in print. I thought he had to know the meaning of all the words, know how to spell every one of them, and know just where each one should fit in to make good sense. I thought that he not only had to write everything in his paper, but that he had to set the type too, and print the paper besides. Surely he must be a great man. So I thought and so I reasoned.

How commonplace are such observations and thoughts in this enlightened part of the country! But not so then. From the contemplation of that editor I got more real enjoyable thinking than I could get today from the reading of the best book printed. And now, after years of reading and writing and experiences in some of the different walks of life, I almost envy the boy who can yet spend weeks studying the new and simple things that for the first time engage his attention. Nor have I a word of censure or reproof for the boy or girl who becomes intensely interested in the things that may seem foolish to the well-informed. I know that they are getting an amazing amount of good out of their simple discoveries and observations, and however simple may be the questions that they ask me I feel disposed to give them the most civil answer at my command. I have no snubs for the child that ask simple and even foolish questions. I have not forgotten the many happy hours I whiled away, when a boy, contemplating some of the ordinary things of life.

OBITUARY

Sister Hilda (Flohr) Strayer passed away from this life to the better one beyond, the night of May 11, 1991. She was the daughter of Lewis B. and Anna E. (Kipe) Flohr, who preceded her in death. She was married August 17, 1918 to Elder Ord L. Strayer, who preceded her in death on January 31, 1966. She was baptized at an early age into the Dunkard faith, then being called the Church of the Brethren. She and her husband were charter members of the Vienna, Virginia Dunkard Brethren Church in 1927. She remained faithful until death.

She leaves to mourn her passing two daughters, Mrs. Rosalie Mellott, Oakland, Maryland and Mrs. Anna Miller, North Manchester, Indiana; a daughter-in-law, Sister Almeda Strayer, Marion, Indiana; six grandchildren; fifteen great grandchildren and one great-great grandson.

Funeral services were conducted at the Swallow Falls Dunkard Brethren Church on May 14, 1991 by Elder Eugene Kauffman and Pastor Dell Lawson. Interment was at the Arlington Memorial Gardens, Virginia.

Christ revealed God as a Father. In His first and last words, Christ calls Him "Father." As a Father, God thinks of us, loves us, works for us, cares for us, protects us, provides for us in the future. "Father" is the most endearing appellation in which He is made known unto us. "I should have been an atheist," said Randolph, "had it not been for one recollection; and that was when my mother used to take my hand in hers, and cause me on my knees to say, 'Our Father which art in Heaven.' " "I never fear," said a little child, "when Father is with me."

The supplies of a missionary among the Indians were reduced, for three persons, to one small piece of meat and three potatoes. It was winter. They laid their case before God in prayer, and claimed His promise, that the trusting shall be fed. The last morsel they had was spread on the table, when an Indian came in with a quarter of venison, saying, "I come to feed you." When the Indian heard of their extremity and prayer, he said, "Now I know why, when I killed my deer, seven miles away, something said to me, 'Go quickly, and carry a piece to the missionary!'"

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR FEBRUARY 1992

February 2 - Solomon Asks for Wisdom - I Kings 3:1-28.

1. What is "an understanding heart"? verse 9
2. What do you desire most from the Lord?

February 9 - Provisions for the Kingdom - I Kings 4:34.

1. Notice Solomon's great possessions.
2. What was Solomon's greatest asset? verse 29-34.

February 16 - Temple Preparations - I Kings 5:1-18.

1. What blessing did Solomon reap from his father's relationships?
2. How was Solomon benefited by being at peace with his neighbor?

February 23 - Building the Temple - I Kings 6:1-38.

1. When was the temple started?
2. Notice the remarkable craftsmanship. verse 7.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR FEBRUARY 1992

February 2 - The Touch of Christ - Matt. 8:1-4, 14-15.

1. Name some ways Christ touched lives.
2. Has Christ touched your heart and life?

February 9 - Widow's Mite - Mark 12:41-44, Luke 21:1-8.

1. How does God measure our giving — by the amount we give or what we keep?
2. What is the value of a mite?

February 16 - Five Loaves, Two Fishes - Matt. 14:14-22, Mark 6:31-44, Luke 9:11-17.

1. What was Christ's purpose in feeding the multitude?
2. What lessons can we learn from the gathering of the fragments? verse 43.

February 23 - Contentment - Pro. 15:1-6, Phil. 4:10-13, I Tim. 6:3-10, Heb. 13:5-6.

1. Where do we find contentment?
2. How does gratitude affect contentment?

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BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 3

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

LIVING FOR JESUS

Living for Jesus a life that is true,
Striving to please Him in all that I do,
Yielding allegiance, glad hearted and free,
This is the pathway of blessing for me.

Living for Jesus who died in my place,
Bearing on Calv'ry my sin and disgrace,
Such love constrains me to answer His call,
Follow His leading and give Him my all.

Living for Jesus wherever I am,
Doing each duty in His Holy Name,
Willing to suffer affliction or loss,
Deeming each trial a part of my cross.

Living for Jesus thro' earth's little while,
My dearest treasure the light of His smile,
Seeking the lost ones He died to redeem,
Bringing the weary to find rest in Him.

- T. O. Chrisholm

BALANCED SERVICE

Anyone who has studied simple science, remembers the important part that Isaac Newton played in formulating various scientific theories. He is still regarded as one of the greatest of all scientists of all time. He formulated theories in various areas of scientific and mathematical studies. Perhaps his best known theory concerns force. "Every action has an opposite and equal reaction." This explains many mechanical activities, both in nature and in man-made machines.

Probably the most familiar application of this principle to most of us is the simple test of our reflexes done in the doctor's office. The tap on the knee will cause the relaxed leg to react.

We see this law applied when we pull a rubber band. The rubber band tries to snap back into its original shape when it is stretched out. This characteristic makes it useful to hold loose objects together. A newspaper with a rubber band around it is held in a rounded shape that is handy for the paperboy to throw. This reflex action gives the rubber band the ability to snap another person or to propel a wad of paper. Newton's Law has much deeper significance in scientific matters than just its application to the rubber band.

A similar reflex can be seen in political affairs. If a person changes his allegiance from one political party to the other, he may become very intense in his devotion to that party. He may go to extra lengths to assail his former party. This also happens when a person changes his national allegiance. The new citizen of a nation may become much more devoted to his new nation than those who are native citizens. Those who have changed their economic or political

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affiliation may be found in an extreme position farthest from what they formerly espoused. Those who have left communistic teachings become the most extreme in their denouncements of communism. This has been recently illustrated by the sudden changes that have taken place in the recently dissolved Soviet Union. Not only is there a change in political views, but also a new openness to Christianity. It is reported that the members of the national legislature could hardly be restrained when they had the opportunity to receive free copies of the Bible. This in a body that had formerly legislated against religious freedom.

This happens in the realm of religious changes also. Those who make a change in their religious beliefs may become most extreme in their new beliefs. Often the grossest sinner, when converted, becomes the most intense Christian because he can better appreciate the change that has come in his life. His past life was so wicked that he can truly enjoy his new lifestyle. The one who has espoused a very liberal social gospel style of religious belief may become, upon conversion, very conservative in belief and practice. On the other hand, those who have had legalistic and formalistic religious beliefs and practices may become very liberal in a new setting. The oppressed desire a great deal of freedom, while those who have had a great deal of freedom may desire more restraint and structure in their new environment.

There are extremes and tangents in religious beliefs and practices, just as there are in political and economic concerns. People can become unbalanced in their application of the scriptures. They may take an extreme position and often become so convinced of their rightness and everyone else's wrongness that they are unwilling to listen to those who have more experience and wisdom in religious affairs. Some become convinced of the supposed leading of the Holy Spirit, when it is but their own desires given a religious coating. Others become just set in their legalistic and formalistic practices they cannot admit of any change or variance from their norm.

Balance is needed in the Christian life, individually and as the Church. The Church must be balanced between the two extremes. To swerve towards one extreme or the other will risk the Spiritual welfare of her members. She dare not become hidebound and legalistic, neither must she become apologetic, weak-kneed and powerless. There must be personal freedom for each member to serve as the Spirit directs, but there must be some direction and structure to guide his activities and relationships. People cannot live and prosper Spiritually under either anarchy or stifling legality.

If you were asked to walk across the Grand Canyon on a tightwire, would you have a good enough sense of balance so you would not

fall? You are doing a highwire act every day that you are living for Christ, this one is more important than the walking over the Grand Canyon. This balancing act affects not only your soul's salvation but that of others who are watching you. How is your balance?

SIXTY YEARS AGO

February 1, 1932

OUR INDIFFERENCE

If the Apostle Paul had been no more diligent than most of us are in doing our Father's will, what a wonderful difference it would have made to the world. We are not specially-called apostles as he was, and yet we are specially called, and we could make our lives count for much more than we do in the service for which we have volunteered. And we might, we would, make our influence felt for the improvement of the world, for a closer walk with God, if we were not so careless, so indifferent to nearly all that does not concern our pleasure or profit.

It ought not to be so, it cannot be so, it will not be so, if we really meant what we promised the Lord, the church and ourselves at the time when we took a stand on His side in the war against evil. We have all too often allowed our enthusiasm to grow cold before we have really done anything; which is the main reason why our enthusiasm does grow cool or even cold and so of no real use to the world. If we have something worthwhile to do, our enthusiasm for it will increase as we are busy at it. Day by day we shall see more that should be done, more that we can do and we shall not be satisfied to go on doing nothing.

And when that takes place we shall be truly living as the Lord expects us to live. Men have done great things in times when weaker men or men less in earnest would have given up. Just think of what Paul did after he was imprisoned! Of what John Bunyan did in an English gaol! Of what Martin Luther did under great difficulties, how he stood his ground before the emperor and before the representatives of the pope; how he told them he had taken his stand, how he could not do otherwise, and how he said: "God help me!" Think of how William Tyndale fled from place to place to escape his enemies when he was translating his Bible, and what difficulties he underwent in getting it printed after he had translated it! And think of how much better the world is for their living and striving!

When we read of Bible men who did their best for God, endured whatever hardships came upon them, we have glimpses, desires, for a better, a more consecrated life, than the one we are living. But we let it stop there, we do not set about our Father's business as we know we should do. Not one of us would say that any man of whom

we read did more than he should, more than it was necessary for him to do; and yet we are satisfied to do so very little. Does God require of some more than of others? In a way He does, and in a way He does not. The command is to love Him with all the heart, soul, mind, and strength. Some persons have more mind than others, and so more is demanded of them; some have more strength than others, and so more is demanded of them; but in each case all is demanded, and must be given before we can be assured of acceptance when He comes.

Sometimes we take pride in what we can do or have done, for ourselves, for our own profit; and we even think of ourselves as having more ability than many others. But when it comes to works for God it is different. It is well that we do not boast then; we are satisfied to do very much less than some who have been given fewer endowments of body and mind than we have. We are so indifferent to the most important work in the world for us. We give more time and study to learning some game than we do to learning what God's will is concerning us and what He is demanding of us. This ought not so to be. It would not be so if we loved the Lord as we should, and really wanted to serve.

Our years are passing, and we are so indifferent to the opportunities which each year, each day, brings to us. We would remember that never again will we have a chance to improve the opportunities which we neglected in 1931. Will it be the same when we reach the end of 1932? God forbid. And yet it will be so unless we awaken to a sense of our responsibilities as professed children of the Heavenly Father. May He help us better to use this year and the following years than we have the past.

We are not indifferent to the things of time and sense; we want earthly treasure, we want fine furniture, we want leisure so that we can enjoy our earthly treasures, and we fail so often to lay up treasures above, where we can never be deprived of them. Here we strive to gain, and then lose; and we repeat the process, never seeming to learn that we can have our treasures where they cannot be taken from us.

Are we wise so to live? Are we satisfied when we think seriously of God and the shortness of our days here? God help us that we may be so no longer, but that we may work for Him.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★

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EDITORIAL POLICY

That it be the policy of the Bible Monitor to exclude controversial material and material opposing, questioning or reflecting on the decisions or positions of the Church as determined by the General Conference or derogatory thereto. Also all other material not of proper standard or spiritual value for a church paper.

That supervision over the matter to be published in the Bible Monitor be exercised by the Publication Board.

PRINTED MATERIAL

The following Dunkard Brethren publications are available to anyone, from the Boards listed:

GENERAL MISSION BOARD

The following tracts are free:

Why Triune Baptism
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Which is the Right Church?
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What Shall I Do With The Commandments of Jesus?
Daily Reminder
The Lord's Supper
The Doctrine of the Prayer Veil
The Brethren's Card
Do You Want Salvation?
Bible Teachings
The Sabbath - Its Origin and Observance

PUBLICATION BOARD

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Church Letter Blanks

Credential Blanks

SUGGESTIONS TO CONTRIBUTORS

We are submitting several suggestions as a help to contributors in preparing material for the Bible Monitor. These suggestions will also make the work easier for both the editor and the writer.

1. Become familiar with the Editorial Policy and do not use subjects or statements which conflict with this plan of the Bible Monitor.

2. Place your name and address at the close of the article. We deem it more appropriate to sign as Brother or Sister.

3. Do not make sentences too long. A number of short sentences are better than a long involved sentence which is difficult to punctuate, and in which the real meaning of the writer's thought may be lost.

4. It will be appreciated if you gather a particular thought or thoughts and their proving Scripture quotations, into paragraphs and set these apart from the rest of the article, by setting in the first line of each paragraph about the space of three letters.

5. Do not crowd your words or punctuation marks close together. Do not use slang or abbreviated words as "thot" for thought, "2" for two; "&" for and, etc.

6. Write or type on one side of the paper only. Double spacing of lines is much preferred. Do not make the lines the full width of the sheet, leave at least one inch margin on each side of the sheet.

7. Use direct quotations for the Scripture references, please copy the wording and the punctuation just as it appears in the King James Version of the Bible. Given thus: book, chapter and verse, "Jesus wept." John 11:35.

8. Frequent mistakes we find: "beleive" for "believe"; "recieve" for "receive"; "ore" for "or"; "&" for "and".

9. In submitting selected material, give the name of the author and the publication in which it appeared, if known, and add "selected by" and your name.

10. To be certain that an item is in a certain issue, your Editor should have this item at least thirty days prior to the date of that issue.

11. The Publication Board has decided that News Items should contain material of general interest to the Brotherhood. Therefore items of only local interest should not be included in News Items, such as Local Sunday School officers, District meeting delegates, minor local church property improvements and items "In Memoriam."

12. Read these and then write.

FIXED COMMUNION DATES

Third Sat. March - Quinter, KA
 First Sat. April - Dallas Center, IA
 Last Sat. April - Grandview, MO
 Last Sun. April - Bethel, PA
 First Sat. May - Pleasant Home, CA
 First Sun. May - Waynesboro, PA
 Second Sat. May - Dayton, VA
 Third Sat. May - West Fulton, OH
 Third Sun. May - Lititz, PA
 Fourth Sun. May - Shrewsbury, PA
 Sat. before First Sun. Aug. - Broadwater Chapel, MD
 Sat. before Fourth Sun. Aug. - Swallow Falls, MD
 First Sun. Oct. - Walnut Grove, MD
 Third Sat. Oct. - Dayton, VA
 Fourth Sat. Oct. - Englewood, OH
 Last Sun. Oct. - Bethel, PA
 First Sat. Nov. - Pleasant Home, CA
 First Sun. Nov. - Shrewsbury, PA
 Second Sun. Nov. - Lititz, PA

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A. Elders, other officials and all others are admonished that being busybodies in other men's matters, is contrary to the Scripture and it should not be indulged in, as it causes complaint and interference with the spiritual life and work of those concerned. This applies especially where there may be trouble in the church, both to local members and those elsewhere, talking and writing about such matters.

B. When advice is sought of an official in any church matter he (the official) should be exceedingly careful in giving advice, so as not to interfere in any way with proper care of difficulties, by officials whose business they are. Elders and all others should, in seeking advice, begin at home when at all possible and be careful to proceed regularly and in brotherly love.

C. In correspondence, care should be exercised not to make statements that may be construed as derogatory to any member. If such things are done, full responsibility must be understood as being assumed by the writer.

D. Caucusing, that is, the talking over and planning by groups, what to do or how to move in any particular matter is unprofitable, causative of distress and trouble and should not be indulged in by officials or anyone else.

E. Talking or circulating of what was done in council, either to members who were not present or to outsiders, is irregular and un-Christian and should not be indulged in.

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LOCATION OF CHURCH HOUSES

BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

Located on Route 419, five miles east of Bethel, which is one mile south of Interstate 78, exit 6. The church and the school are located together.

BROADWATER CHAPEL, MD.

From Cumberland, Maryland, travel west on National Freeway #48, 20 miles to Lower New Germany Road Exit. Turn left or south under the freeway three-tenths mile, turn right on Lower New Germany Road. Go 3.8 miles, turn left on Westernport Road. Go 3.8 miles, turn right on Savage Road. Go 3.9 miles to church on left.

From Morgantown, WV area, travel east on National Freeway #48 to Lower New Germany Road Exit. Turn right, go three-tenths mile, turn right on Lower New Germany Road and follow above directions.

Traveling east or west on U.S. Route #50 take U.S. Rt. #220 north, take Maryland Rt. #135 at McCoolle (just north of Keyser, WV) seven miles to Bloomington, MD. Turn right on Savage River Road, go 12½ miles to church on right.

DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

Dallas Center is located on Rt. 44, twenty-four miles northwest of Des Moines. Turn north off Rt. 44 onto County Rd. R16 at west edge of Dallas Center. The church is ¾ mile north on the west side of the road.

DAYTON, VIRGINIA

Turn west from Interstate 81 at Harrisonburg Exit #63. Go to fourth stop light, Rt. 42, turn left to Dayton, (3 miles) right on Rt. 257, two blocks.

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

Twelve miles north of Dayton, Rt. 440 and Rt. 48 cross at the center of Englewood. Church house is located on the right of Rt. 48, one block north of this junction.

GOSHEN, INDIANA

Located on Green Road, one block north of County #130. Take U.S. 33 or Indiana #15 to Goshen, turn west at police booth. Four blocks beyond bridge, turn right on North Indiana Ave., go one block, turn left on W. Clinton St. Go one mile to Green Rd., turn right and go one block. The church is located on the east side of road.

GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Grandview Church is located south of Grandview. Take the west access road of 71 Highway 1½ miles south to 139th St., turn west, go to the second street and turn south one block.

LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

Coming from the south on Route 501, turn right on Newport Road, which is about a mile north of Lititz. Coming from the north turn left on Newport Road. Go to second crossroads, turn right. The brick church is on the right.

MECHANICSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

Located between Routes 15 and 11. The town is bisected by Rt. 114 into east and west, and by Rt. 641 into north and south. The church is located on West Keller St., (corner of Keller and Washington St.), four blocks west of Market St. or Rt. 114. Leaving the Pennsylvania Turnpike at the Carlisle interchange, Rt. 11 will lead east to Rt. 114. Leaving the Turnpike at Gettysburg interchange, Rt. 16 will lead west to Rt. 114.

Brightbill's House — located on U.S. Route 322, 2.5 miles east of Campbelltown, Pennsylvania in Lebanon County. The meeting house is a grey limestone building.

McCLAVE, COLORADO

The Cloverleaf church is located one mile north of U.S. Highway #50, four miles west of McClave junction, or two miles east of Hasty, Colo., on U.S. #50 and then north one mile.

MOUNTAINDALE, MARYLAND

Seven miles north of Frederick, in the little town of Mountaindale, Maryland, from the east go through town to west on road from Lewistown to Yellow Springs, two miles from Lewistown and three miles from Yellow Springs. If traveling U.S. 15, this road crosses 15, a half mile west of Lewistown and six miles south of Thurmont.

NEWBERG, OREGON

Highway 99W enters Newberg in east-west direction. Those entering from the east on First St., go to third stoplight, turn right on N. Main. Go four blocks to the church at corner of N. Main and Franklin Streets. Entering from the west, turn left at first stoplight onto N. Main and go four blocks to the corner of Main and Franklin Streets.

PINE RIDGE, MISSISSIPPI

Located near Collins, Mississippi. From Collins, go east on US 84 three quarters of a mile to Salem School Road. Turn left and go five and one fourth miles to intersection, where there is a directional sign to the Church. Turn left and proceed one mile to the next directional sign. Turn right and go one half mile to the church house.

PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA

The Pleasant Home Church is located at 3960 Sharon Ave., Modesto, California. The church's telephone number is 209-524-8634.

Directions: From the south on Highway 99 take the Briggsmore Exit to the right and stay on Briggsmore Ave. to Claus Road (approximately six miles), turn left on Claus, one fourth mile to Sharon Avenue, left on Sharon. The church is on the left. Coming from the north on Highway 99 take the Briggsmore Exit, turn left and stay on Briggsmore and follow above directions.

PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

Located in Williams County, four miles west of West Unity, forty rods north of Rt. 20 Alternate. Two miles east of junction of Ohio Rte. 15 and U.S. Route 20 Alternate.

PLEVNA, INDIANA

Route 18 passes east and west through Converse. In Converse, turn south at stoplight and go three miles. Turn right on blacktop road and go five miles to Plevna. Or go west of Converse on Rt. 18 for five miles, turn left and go three miles south. The church is on west side of street near the square of Plevna.

QUINTER, KANSAS

Located at the corner of Eighth Street and Main Street.

SHREWSBURY, PA

Fourteen miles south of York on Rt. 111, at the north end of the town of Shrewsbury.

SWALLOW FALLS, MD.

Traveling U.S. Rt. 50, turn north at red house, half way between Clarksburg and Winchester, follow Rt. 219 to Oakland, there turn left on County Road 20. The church is on Road 20, about nine miles north of Oakland. Traveling U.S. Rt. 40, turn south onto Rt. 219, at Keyser Ridge, follow Rt. 219 about four miles past Deep Great Lake, turn right on County Road 20 at a store. The church is one and one-half miles Swallow Falls Park.

WALNUT GROVE, MARYLAND

About midway between Frederick, MD and Hanover, PA. One-fourth mile east on Rt. 194, at an intersection three miles north of Taneytown, MD.

WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

Church is located in west side of town, on corner of Ridge and Third Streets. Turn south of Route 16 on Fairview Ave., go two blocks and turn left on Third Street, church house is one block.

WEST FULTON, OHIO

Near Wauseon, Ohio, located on U.S. Rt. 20 Alternate, 3.5 miles west of the junction of Ohio Rt. 108 and U.S. Rt. 20 Alternate.

WINTERHAVEN, CALIFORNIA

Located in Cherry Valley. Go north of Beaumont on Beaumont Ave., turn right on Brookside (marked with a Highland Springs sign) go to Jonathan, turn left, go to Lincoln, turn right and go to church which is on left side of road.

MISSIONS

CLEARVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA -

Ward's Church is located in South-Central Pennsylvania about halfway between Everett on Rt. 30 and Piney Grove on Rt. 40, about six miles south of Clearville. From Everett take Rt. 26 to Clearville. At Clearville go straight south, leaving Rt. 26, which turns right. Go 1.5 miles, turn right at the fork. Ward's Church is five miles on left side of road. Services are held second, fourth and fifth Sundays, at 10:00 a.m.

HART, MICHIGAN - From Muskegon go north on Route 31 to Hart Exit. Go left from freeway about 1½ miles to tee in road, turn right. Go approximately one-half mile to church on left side of road.

TORREON NAVAJO MISSION

Located 23 miles southwest of Cuba, New Mexico. In Cuba, turn on State Highway 197. Follow Rt. 197 for 19 miles to a paved road going to the left. A Mission sign marks the junction. Present personnel includes: David and Mildred Skiles; Paul and Sarah Skiles; Mary Alice Skiles; Renita Trujillo; Mona Noecker; Tena Skiles; Ben Beachler; and Phyllis Hilty. Visitors would be wise to notify the Mission in advance. Address: HCR 79, Box 8; Cuba, New Mexico 87013; Phone: 505-731-2292. Please contact for further information.

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BIBLE MONITOR

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FEBRUARY 15, 1992

NO. 4

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

WHEN I HAVE TIME

When I have time so many things I'll do
To make life happier and more fair
For those whose lives are crowded now with care;
I'll help to lift them from their low despair
When I have time.

When I have time the friend I loved so well
Shall know no more these weary, toiling days;
I'll lead her feet in pleasant paths always
And cheer her heart with words of sweetest praise,
When I have time.

When you have time! The friend you hold so dear
May be beyond the reach of all your sweet intent;
May never know that you so kindly meant
To fill her life with sweet content
When you had time.

Now is the time! Ah, friend, no longer wait
To scatter loving smiles and words of cheer
To those around whose lives are now so dear;
They may not need you in the coming year --
Now is the time!

GRAFTING

It is often advantageous for the one who cares for an orchard or vineyard to improve his stock by grafting. Often the vines or trees that produce the best fruit are not as resistant to disease and natural forces as the wild varieties. Unfortunately, these wild varieties do not produce fruit that is as desirable. The fruit may be tough or bitter or does not ripen properly to be useful. Each variety has its strengths and weaknesses. So the one in charge decides to combine the good qualities of the two through grafting.

The grafting requires the cutting away of an unwanted branch so there will be host in which to attach the branch of the desired fruit. The stronger root provides the needed food for the engrafted twig, which will grow and eventually produce the desired fruit. Both the root and the transposed branch have a part in the production of the fruit that is both delicious and healthy. There are several methods of grafting, all requiring each part to play a role in developing fruit that is useful.

In Romans 11, the Apostle Paul reminds the Gentile believers of the debt they owe to the root that they had been grafted into. God had first called the Jews as His Chosen People. He had watched over them and blessed them in numerous ways. He had given them His Word and within it many promises relating to the coming Messiah. The Messiah came, as promised, but they failed to receive Him and in the end they were responsible for His death. The earliest missionary efforts were made to the Jews, first in Jerusalem, then in surrounding areas and finally in far away places where the Jews had settled. Very few were willing

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to change their minds about Jesus, so the bulk of the effort before long became directed toward the Gentiles, especially by the Apostle Paul. In writing to the Roman believers, he reminded them that their faith had been based upon the original faith that had been delivered to the Jews. Jesus had attempted to draw the Jews unto the Father and away from the legalism of their leaders. Their rejection had cut them off, just like the branch taken off the root so another, more fruitful, branch could be grafted in the same place. The root was supplying the flow of lifegiving nutrients, so the unnatural branches should not boast themselves against that root. After all they were being kept alive by it. Paul spoke of the possibility of having the natural branch grafted back into the place where it had originally been. This would remind all Christians that while the Jews are unconverted, they should still be honored as God's first chosen people. Christians should not become persecutors of the Jews, although many would seek to blame them for many of the world's ills.

Grafting illustrates several lessons. One lesson would concern the need of a cutting away of that which is undesirable. There are many characteristics, habits and activities that should have no part in the Christian's life, but the Christian cannot, and will not, exist in a vacuum. There must not only be the cutting away but also a replacement with something that is better. The unfruitful activity needs to give way to the fruitful. That which is dishonoring to God, Christ, the Church or another believer should be cut away and replaced with that which would be approved by God.

The tree itself does not produce the new branch that is grafted into it. That new branch is taken from another plant and becomes the replacement for what is cut away. This would bespeak the need for dependence upon God to provide us with the right Spirit. There is a need for dedication and commitment on the part of the Christian, but he cannot produce the fruit that is Spiritual without the Holy Spirit within. The Spirit must be engrafted into the heart, soul, mind and body of the believer. Self-righteousness may produce a fruit that resembles the true fruit, but eventually it will wilt and show its true self. Without Spiritual inspiration, a man's works will show their human origin, because no man can maintain a perfect level of works by himself.

The believer, who is grafted in, will receive the needed Spiritual direction. He will have the needed strength to produce fruit acceptable to God. He will be more resistant to the Spiritual diseases that affect the natural branches. Having a good connection with the life-giving root, he will be able to overcome those temptations and tribulations that would be his down fall otherwise.

Have you been grafted into the root, so you have the life-giving flow bringing life and fruitfulness to you? Are you growing stronger with your attachment to the root? Are you producing the fruit which will win the praise of the Master of the Vineyard?

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"Not Far From the Kingdom"

"... Thou art not far from the kingdom of God..." (Mark 12:34)

It had been a day of testing for the Lord. The Pharisees and the Herodians had come with their captious questions so they might catch Him up in His answers.

John had preached the message of repentance in the wilderness of Judaea. Jesus preached Repent; the kingdom of heaven is at hand. The disciples had preached the same message.

After His ministry, the Man of Nazareth took a cross upon His bruised and bleeding back and carried it up the hill called Calvary and, there, on Golgotha's brow, poured out His life's blood to purchase the kingdom. After fifty days, this same Savior who had resurrected and ascended to the Father was to send down the Holy Spirit to inaugurate the kingdom. Some heeded the message during that day and accepted Jesus as Lord of their lives but there were several men who were not far from the kingdom of God who well represent men of our day who claim the same position.

First was the Jewish Scribe. Here was a man who copied the Law and taught it as well. He had knowledge but knowledge without an active faith is nothing. You may have knowledge. You might well know that GOD IS. You might know that He died for you. You might know that you have sinned. You might be aware that the wages of sin is death. You may know that there is only one way to forgiveness. You might know that the only life is the Christian life and that your home needs to be united under Him. You might know to do good but James reminds us that "To him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin." IF YOU HAVE THE KNOWLEDGE YOU SHOULD BE A CHRISTIAN... YOU ARE NOT FAR FROM THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

A second man whom we meet in the book of Acts is a soldier called Cornelius. He was of the Italian band and a man of position and authority.

Cornelius is the epitome of morality. Try to find a man of the world today who is any "better" a man than he was. He was devout, gave alms, prayed but was not saved. He had to be taught of the higher calling.

Even as Cornelius, the good moral man with Christian morality, was not far from the kingdom so today there are many people who seem to want to live this kind of Christian life today. Morality alone was unable to save this man. It was inadequate. It was a part of the total Christian picture but not all of it. Why is it that morality alone cannot save? First, there is no one who is moral enough. If a person was saved on the basis of goodness, how good would we have to be to be saved? Isn't it obvious? Wouldn't we have to be perfect? None of us are without sin. There can be no salvation without Christ's shed blood. It is altogether possible to be the best moral man in the world and not even believe in the Lord. You might be a good moral person and laugh at the teachings of the Bible and turn your back on them.

If we could be saved through our goodness, wouldn't this make us the dictator of the terms of our own salvation? It would be like a prisoner at the judgement bar saying, "Yes, I killed that man. I am guilty. But, I will only go to prison for one year and then will go free." That is ridiculous. No more so than the guilty sinner who attempts to tell God what he is going to do to be saved. It is God who has the right to fix the terms of pardon and salvation.

To the good moral person... I say, you need Christ and the Church... and Christ and the Church wants you. If you have morality, such as that of Cornelius, you ought to be a Christian instead of being "not far from the kingdom."

Another man we meet in Acts is Felix, the governor of the province of Judaea. Paul was to preach to this man and was to hear him say, "Go thy way for this time; and when I have a convenient season, I will call thee unto me."

Here is a gospel sermon that didn't find its home. What caused its failure? Certainly the fault was not with the messenger. Paul poured out his Spirit filled heart to this sinful old governor. The fault was not due to Christ... as He offered salvation to this ruler... just as He offers salvation to all who will hear His Word. Even the hearer succeeded in hearing the truth but he failed in that he postponed to act upon it.

Why wasn't governor Felix saved? Why did he remain not far from the kingdom? We might suggest at least four reasons from the Word. First he was reveling in his sin and was terrified of its ramification but he would not repent. He knew that if he became a Christian there would be some things he would have to give up and he was unwilling to pay the price.

This is why many are "near the kingdom" today. They are unwilling to relinquish the world or some sinful practice. A head covering or the holy kiss seem too high a price to pay for an eternity with the Lord.

You might have heard the story of the way monkeys are trapped in the jungle. Empty coconut shells are filled with grains of rice. Monkeys will reach in after the rice but cannot pull their clinched fists out and will not let go of their prize. Many cling to things today with as little value as a few grains of rice. We can't have both an ungodly life and eternity with Christ. It is an either or situation.

Secondly, Felix postponed his decision... but there is no indication that there was ever a more convenient season in his life.

How very dangerous it is to put off the greatest of life's decisions. The words "too late" are empty and fearful. Devote your life to Him now!

A third hint as to why Felix was not saved was that he was avaricious. He desired to serve mammon rather than God.

Finally, he desired to "gain favor with the Jews." He esteemed favor of men rather than the favor of God.

Our final example of being "not far from the kingdom" is a Roman king. Set in old Caesarea. King Agrippa and Queen Bernice have come to town and want to hear the illustrious prisoner, Paul, speak. In a hall thronged with royalty, Agrippa entertained the old prisoner of the Lord. Battle-scarred as a great soldier of the cross, unashamed of his chain, Paul stretched forth his hand to make his defense. He related his conversion experience on the Damascus road and appealed to Agrippa that he would make Jesus the Lord of his life. But Agrippa answered him..."ALMOST THOU PERSUADEST ME TO BE A CHRISTIAN." "Almost"... what a small word with a great depth of meaning. One word kept this king out of the kingdom. "Almost"! The king was ashamed of Jesus. He couldn't bow the knee before God.

Is it possible that you are ashamed to stand for the One who stood for you through Calvary? Do you think more of the wishes of your friends and neighbors than you do of the wishes of Christ?

If you have the knowledge of the scribe, the morality of Cornelius, the intention of Felix or the conviction of Agrippa, you MUST accept Jesus as your Saviour. Don't be content remaining just outside the kingdom of God. Lay aside every weight and run toward Jesus... the author and perfecter of your faith.

Brother Len Wertz

WHAT MANNER OF MAN IS THIS

Mark 4:41, "And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

The question asked by the disciples after the calming of the storm at sea is still being asked today. Putting it into slightly different terminology the question becomes, "Who is the real Jesus Christ?" Books have been written to answer this question by individuals with knowledge and intellect far superior to our own. The thoughts we wish to share are certainly not entirely original. They have been said much better by others. Yet we feel led to share our humble thoughts on this subject at this time. We would like to look at five "answers" to the question, "What manner of man is this?"

The first individual we call to answer this question is a member of the liberal humanists association. He will tell you first of all that the storm that Christ calmed in this account was the storm within the hearts of the disciples. That this, like the other miracles recorded in Holy Scripture, was either an attempt by the writer to allegorize or it may even have been an outright distortion of the truth to make Jesus appear to be divine. He will insist that Jesus of Nazareth was only one of many "Christs" and that He was merely a human. Yes, a son of God as we are all sons and daughters of God. He will tell you that Joseph was the probable father of Jesus. In his mind it is even the possibility that Jesus was the result of a rape by a soldier. The idea that Mary may even have been promiscuous is not entirely discounted. That Jesus lived a sinless life is seriously doubted. In his eyes Jesus died a martyr's death for a good cause, not to be the perfect sacrifice for our sins. He was not resurrected, except in the mind of His followers, according to the liberal humanist.

The next individual we call to answer this question follows the thinking of the cultists. He tells us that Jesus may have been Michael the arch-angel. Then again He may have been a "lesser god." According to his thinking, Jesus was certainly not equal with God the Father. He may have been married, perhaps to two wives. The death of Jesus Christ on the cross was a partial remedy for our sinful state but human works must be added to complete the act.

We call on the political pacifist to give us his understanding of Jesus Christ. He tells us that Jesus Christ came to earth to bring political peace to the world. According to him, Jesus Christ never really meant that He was the only way to the Father. He will tell you that it is God's ultimate desire that all the religions of the world become one. He does not look forward to a time when Jesus Christ will come again but insists that God expects mankind to build a "Heaven on Earth" by the elimination of all war. He does not believe that the God of the Old Testament and the God

of the New Testament are one and the same God. Along with the liberal humanists, he doubts the validity of Old Testament accuracy.

We follow this with a view from the opposite extreme. We call a member of the God and Country militant group. He tells us that Jesus Christ will be the Prince of Peace when the millennial reign takes place and not before. He states dogmatically that Jesus Christ expects every able man to serve time in the military. He, along with the political pacifists, believes that Jesus Christ would have us be involved in the politics of our nation. He would have no problem with a Jesus who takes up arms and takes a life in the name of the country of which He is a citizen.

We would quickly add that each of these individuals is a composite picture of a theological view and may not be true of every individual who holds these views. But each represents a real problem. Not one of them gives us a true picture of "What manner of man is this?" as described in Holy Scripture. The last individual we will call is a member of the group who recognizes Jesus Christ for who He really is. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1:1. This describes who Jesus Christ really was. His miracles were real, He lived a sinless life, died a vicarious death that mankind may have the opportunity to have eternal life. His precious blood is all that is needed to wash away our sins. No human works are needed to be added to this for our salvation. (Baptism and obedience are not human works but the work of the Holy Spirit within us.)

The Jesus Christ of the Bible never became involved with politics. He never instructed His followers to become involved in any way but to be good citizens who obey the laws of the land which are not contrary to the laws of God. He was not a pacifist. He cleansed the temple (as God, not man) and called the Pharisees of His time a generation of vipers. He was not a God and Country militant. Neither He nor His followers are ever recorded as taking a human life. His teachings clearly are non-resistant.

What is your answer to the question, "What manner of man is this?" Even more important, what will you do with Him? Will you make Him the Lord and Savior of your life? Will you be willing to follow ALL of His teachings? Will you allow His precious blood to cleanse you from all sin? Contrary to some teaching, you do have a choice.

Brother James M. Hite
816 E. Birch St.
Palmyra, PA 17078

FIVE WORDS TO GUIDE OUR LIVES

Looking, Listening, Learning, Loving and Living

Looking

Isaiah 45:22, "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else."

Isaiah 51:1, "Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the Lord; look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged." Please read verses 1-6.

Luke 21:28, "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

John 4:35, "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." Please read verses 34-38.

Numbers 21:8, "And the Lord said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live." Please read verses 4-9, also II Kings 18:4.

John 3:14-15, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life."

Titus 2:13, "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." Please read verses 11-15.

Hebrews 11:10, "For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." Please read verses 8-19.

Hebrews 12:2, "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." Please read verses 1-4.

Hebrews 12:15, "Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled." Please read verses 12-29.

II Peter 3:12, "Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?" Please read verses 1-15.

Jude 21, "Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life." Please read verses 20-25.

God bless you all.

Brother William Carpenter
8012 Cavender St.
Morenci, MI 49256

CONTENTS: PERISHABLE

A few years back we were in traffic and had to follow a truck, slowly, for many miles. On its back bumper was a sign which said: Contents: Perishable. We were able to meditate on this little message for a long time. With many wars, acts of murder and suicide at alarmingly high rates, and increasing, it appears that life is not worth much in today's world.

When Jesus became flesh and dwelt among man, I believe the times were similar. Life was cheap. Children would die of the most minor of diseases, because nothing existed to combat them. People would become blind due to malnutrition. People would rob and kill others for just a few cents.

Today, abortions average a million and a half per year in this country alone. The other day the newspaper told of a one day old baby receiving a heart transplant and the valiant effort to save it, yet at the same time, on the same day, four thousand, one hundred babies, most of them healthy, were thrown into the garbage. There have been cases in which a child was murdered for his sneakers or his sweater. Children are being born with drug addictions and with AIDS. Aren't our children worth more?

For the first time in forty-five years, Europeans are killing each other in a civil war. Yugoslavians are fighting, essentially over land. Is there no sanctity to life?

In my health care work, I have seen the carelessness that doctors exhibit in dealing with deadly diseases. If you have no insurance, many hospitals can refuse to treat you. You can be lying there bleeding, and they must have your card numbers first. May God help those whose life should be guided with compassion and concern for others.

Every person we come in contact with possesses a living soul that will live forever somewhere. Do we care?

New Age thinkers do not encourage preparing to meet God. They teach reincarnation. They say, "Do not worry, you will have many more chances to attain perfection in this life." Yet we see no godliness from them. They are "gods" without God. They are wells without water offering no good thing to quench the thirst of the soul. What shall we do with the New Agers and those who

espouse the "New World Order"? Point them to the lamb of God, Jesus Christ! We need not fear what men can do to us.

But it saddens me that men are perishing everyday without giving the Lord a chance in their lives. Today's world advertises too many opportunities. The real ones get lost in the confusion. The people of the world must know that they are perishable, and headed for hell without Jesus.

Brother Lynn H. Miller
RD 2 Box 561
Newmanstown, PA 17073

SIXTY YEARS AGO

February 15, 1932

"OF THAT DAY AND HOUR"

Grant Mahan

Man has nearly always wanted to see into the future and to know what was to come to him. At times this desire is much stronger than at other times, and people are on tiptoe with expectation of some great event. There have been several such times since the ascension of our Lord. He promised to come again, and before going away He spoke of certain phenomena that would be seen in the world before His return. And men have thought that the things that were happening were those foretold by Jesus as preceding His second coming; and so they have been looking for His sudden coming. But so far their looking has been in vain: He has not come; and they know not when He will.

At the present time there are very many who think we are in the last days and that His coming cannot be long delayed. So much time is given to speculation as to the time – too much, it seems to me. We believe and know that He is coming, for we have His word that He will come. But we must not overlook or fail to consider His other words, that the time of His coming would be known to no one: the angels did not know when it would be; nor did He Himself. Under such conditions is there not something better for us to do than to waste our time in trying to find out when He will come? If there were any possibility of our finding out it would be not so bad, perhaps, to spend some time in speculation. But even if it were possible to learn the time, we may well doubt whether it would be to our advantage. I do not believe that God conceals from us anything that we should know, anything that would be to our advantage to know. And, furthermore, we cannot find out what He does not wish us to know. Certain things He

wants us to know, and certain other things He does not want us to know, for if He had wanted us to know them He would have told them.

We have a definite work to do while we are waiting. He has made that quite plain. He has entrusted to each one of us certain talents: some of us have few, while others have more. Just here it is well for us to remember that if He has given us but one talent He will not demand a reckoning for five or ten, but for one. He will insist on a reckoning for that one talent just as strictly as for the five or ten. In one place we are told that to each one was given according to his ability; and we may be sure it is that way with us. We have to do with One who knows all about us, much better than we know ourselves. He knows our abilities, our possibilities, our opportunities, and He expects, He demands, that we make full use of all of them.

After Jesus had told the disciples of the coming destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the world, they wanted to know when these things would come to pass, and they said: "Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you... And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved... But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only... Watch, therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come... Therefore, be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

This is the information we get from the New Testament, and we know it is the most reliable to be had anywhere. Man may speculate as to the time, but he can never know the exact time. The one who spends his time trying to settle as to the day and hour of the Lord's coming, it seems to me, is wasting time that might and should be spent to better purpose. Then, too, we could gain nothing by knowing. It is thought by some that men would prepare more for the next world if they knew the time was close at hand when they would be ushered into it. But it is very doubtful whether any preparation made just because death was near, would avail; for if one prepares for the future would only because it is near, and not because he loves the Lord, there would be no merit in the preparation. We know from Paul's letter what effect the thought of the near coming of the Lord had on the Thessalonians, and there is no reason to think it would have an entirely different effect on us now.

The best way is to watch and pray, and work while it is today.

OBITUARIES

DELMA STUMP

Brother Delma L. Stump was born December 26, 1918 in Marshall County, Indiana. He was the third son of Brother Clarence and Sister Shella Stump.

He was married to Sister Barbara Clepper on March 5, 1939. He leaves to mourn his passing his beloved wife, Barbara, son, David L. of Newburg, Pennsylvania; foster son, Mark at home; three daughters, Martha Schadle of Hobe Sound, Florida, Gloria Fish of Mendora, Indiana and Miriam Pierce of Bunker Hill, West Virginia. A son, Wayne preceded him in death on June 11, 1963. Also surviving are six brothers: Maurice of Christiana, Pennsylvania, Edward of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, Russell of Myerstown, Pennsylvania, Paul of Union, Ohio, Joseph of York, Pennsylvania and John of Bernville, Pennsylvania; four sisters, Valeria Sweitzer and Ruth Burtner of Red Lion, Pennsylvania, Luella Shuman of Carlisle, Pennsylvania and Mary Hartz of Palmyra, Pennsylvania; thirteen grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Early in life he accepted Christ as his Savior and was baptized on October 2, 1933. He was later called to the deacons office and was installed on December 4, 1955 at the Mechanicsburg Congregation where he remained a faithful member until the time of his home-going.

During a period of illness some years before his passing, he was anointed and the Lord, in answer to our prayers gloriously raised him up to some years of service once more.

Brother Delma went to be with the Lord on July 15, 1991 while actively employed.

Services were held on July 19, 1991 in the Myers Funeral Home, Mechanisburg, Pennsylvania with Elders Jacob Ness and William Jones officiating. Burial was in the Mechanisburg Cemetery.

Safely Home

I am home in Heaven, dear ones;
All's so happy, all's so bright!
There's perfect joy and beauty
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief are over,
Every restless tossing passed;
I am now at peace forever,
Safely home in Heaven at last.

Did you wonder I so calmly
Trode the Valley of the Shade?
Oh! but Jesus' love illumined
Every dark and fearful glade.
And He came Himself to meet me
In that way so hard to tread;
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,
Could I have one doubt or dread?
Then you must not grieve so sorely,
For I love you dearly still;
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,
Pray to trust our father's will.
There is work still waiting for you,
So you must not idle stand;
Do your work while life remaineth –
You shall rest in Jesus' land.
When that work is all completed,
He will gently call you home;
Oh, the rapture of the meeting!
Oh, the joy to see you come!

KENNETH H. SOUDER

Kenneth H. Souder passed away December 4, 1991 at Fostoria Community Hospital. He was born September 26, 1915 in Seneca County to Harry A. and Bessie (De-Wald) Souder. Kenny was united in marriage to Lelah Whitman February 22, 1941 in Fostoria and she survives. He is also survived by two daughters, Mrs. Robert (Cheryl) Biddle, Wadsworth, Ohio and Mrs. Kirk (Lynn) Rogers, Lewisville, Texas. Three sisters, Mrs. Eloise Davis, Bethesda, Maryland, Mrs. Kathryn Zartman, Dubuque, Iowa, Mrs. Gene (Wanda) Benninghalf, Monroe, Michigan. Four brothers, Raymond and Edward, both of Fostoria, Ohio, Harold of Bay Village, Ohio, Lowell of Prudenville, Michigan and three grandchildren. He was preceded in death by one brother, Charles. Mr. Souder worked in the Binding Department of Gray Printing for twenty-five years. Also he liked feeding sheep. He will be greatly missed by the members of West Fulton Congregation where he attended.

Funeral services were conducted by Mann-Hare Funeral Home by Elders Edward Johnson, Charles Leatherman and Harley Flory. Burial in Fountain Cemetery, Fostoria, Ohio.

I praise and thank Almighty God for my brethren and sisters' prayers, expressions of sympathy, cards, flowers and gifts of love at the passing of my husband, Kenneth Souder.

May God richly bless you each one.

Sister Lelah Belle Souder

NEWS ITEMS

1992 General Conference
June 6-10, 1992

General Conference will be held June 6 through 10, 1992 at: Roxbury Holiness Camp Grounds, Roxbury, Pennsylvania.

We ask that you make reservations as early as possible, before May 15, 1992, to help us better plan for the needs of Conference.

Reservations can be made to:

Bro. Verling Wolfe
Rt. 1 Box 1483B
Bethel, PA 19507
717-933-4246

or

Bro. Paul Noecker, Jr.
410 Black Horse Rd.
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
717-739-2209

Complete directions will be published later.

Lodging Committee

DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

The Lord willing, the Dallas Center Congregation plans a ten day revival meeting beginning Friday, March 27 through Sunday, April 5. Brother Michael Wray from Escalon, California is to be our evangelist.

We invite each of you to come worship with us. Services begin at 7:30 each week night. All day services are planned for April 4 and 5 with services beginning at 10:45 Saturday morning and Lovefeast services that evening.

Sister Becky Fruth, Cor.

THANK YOU

We'd like to thank all of you across the brotherhood for your concern at the time of my heart surgery. We certainly felt the power of your prayers, and were uplifted by your many cards and calls. We thank God for His mercy and love to us, and His healing power. God bless each one of you!

Our love,
Sister Rhonda, Brother Dave,
Isaac and Rachel Snyder

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MARCH 1992

March 1 - Solomon's Palace - I Kings 7:1-12.

1. What were the primary building materials for the temple?
2. From what are we building our spiritual temple? I Cor. 3:12.

March 8 - Temple Furnishings by Hiram - I Kings 7:13-51.

1. Who was Hiram?
2. What spiritual symbols or types were built into the design of the temple?

March 15 - The Ark Placed in the Temple - I Kings 8:1-21.

1. What was the Ark of the Covenant?
2. What was it a symbol of then and a type of today?

March 22 - Solomon's Prayer - I Kings 8:22-66.

1. What made Solomon's prayer great?
2. What was God's answer to this prayer? II Chron. 7:14.

March 29 - God's Covenant; Solomon's Reign - I Kings 9:1-28.

1. What condition determines God's choice to bless or discipline His people?

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MARCH 1992

March 1 - The Light of the World - Isa. 9:2, John 8:12, Matt. 5:14-16, II Cor. 4:3-6, Eph. 5:11-17.

1. How has Jesus brightened your life?
2. Is His light shining through you?

March 8 - The Woman With the Box - Matt. 26:1-13, John 12:1-11

1. Why did Mary break her vase and anoint the Lord?
2. Have you "broken your vase" for the Lord?

March 15 - Abundance - John 10:9-10, Phil. 4:18-19, I Peter 1:1-5.

1. Do you enjoy the abundance of Heaven's blessings?
 2. Are you seeking spiritual or temporal abundance?
- Matt. 6:19-21.

March 22 - Our Study - Deut. 17:19-20, Isa. 34:16-17, John 5:34-47, Acts 17:10-13, II Tim. 2:13-15.

1. How can we learn of Christ and His will for our life?
2. Are you studying to be approved of God?

March 29 - Our Blessings - I Kings 3:11-14, Ps. 68:15-19, Matt. 6:28-34, Mal. 3:10-14.

1. Why does God bless us?
2. Why would He sometimes withhold blessings from us?

Paul Stump
10340 N. Diamond Mill
Union, OH 45322

(USPS 054-780)

BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXVV

MARCH 1, 1992

NO. 5

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

GOD KNOWETH BEST

He took them from me, one by one,
The things I set my heart upon;
They looked so harmless, fair, and blest;
Would they have hurt me? God knows best.
He loves me so, he would not wrest
Them from me if it were not best.

He took them from me, one by one,
The friends I set my heart upon.
O did they come, they and their love,
Between me and my Lord above?
Were they as idols in my breast?
It may be. God in heaven knows best.

I will not say I did not weep,
As doth a child that wants to keep
The pleasant things in hurtful play
His wiser parent takes away;
But in this comfort I will rest:
He who hath taken knowest best.

A LIGHTHOUSE

Along the coastline, lighthouses have been located so those at sea will know where they are and be warned of the many dangers that lie along that particular stretch of coastline. The rocks that jut out into the sea will be highlighted, keeping the ships from hitting them. The lighthouse means safety, light and direction to those who will pay attention to its light.

The lighthouse may only be a quaint building to those uninterested in navigation. Some, which have been preserved and have become landmarks in their localities. Thus they have become educational and historical tools for edifying those who have had no direct dealing with the real work of the lighthouse. It is well for people to be able to learn of these things but the primary business of the lighthouse is not education nor history but to save those who need its services.

Many of these landmarks have been replaced by more modern lighting devices or there is no perceived need for a light at that place. Many ships are now equipped with modern, electronic instruments that enable them to pick up dangers that could lead to shipwreck. The lighthouse just is not as needed as it once was, when ships were not so self-sufficient.

The light cast forth by the lighthouse to warn and guide those who are at risk at sea is not just a light sending forth its beam. It is a strong light that is projected to an even stronger brightness by a reflector. To be effective the reflector must be kept clean and polished. If it becomes dull, it will fail to reflect the light adequately so the lighthouse will not be able to warn and guide those who depend upon it.

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A lighthouse is set on a remote, high place so its light can be seen easier. If the lighthouse were built close to a city, the lights of the city would diminish the brilliance of the lighthouse's light. Those at sea could be misdirected if they could not clearly distinguish which light was from the lighthouse.

There are many similarities between a lighthouse and the Church. As the lighthouse provides a light over the dark sea, so the Church serves as a lighthouse in this present world. The world surrounding the Church is as dark and dangerous as the storm tossed seas that lay off the coast. There are many dangers that exist for the souls of men, that are not always evident, but are nonetheless deadly. It is the duty of the Church, through her ministry, to warn men of those dangers. Many may not pay heed as they should, but the warning must go forth.

The Church's light must burn continuously before a perverse world. If the light flickers or even goes out there will be no one to warn those who are in danger. Like the modern ships with electronic warning gear, many in danger may feel self-sufficient and ignore the light on the shore. The light must still be there for those who will respond.

The light that provides the power for the Church to accomplish its mission is Jesus Christ. He must have the pre-eminence in the Church, just as the light is the highest and most important part of the lighthouse. The Church becomes the reflector, which must be without spot or blemish. There needs to be a continual effort to remove any sin that would hamper the reflecting of the light. If the Church sends forth a dimmed light, those at danger may not pay heed. The Church must send forth a distinct light that can be distinguished from all the other lights that may attract the attention of men, but which may lead them astray.

The remoteness of the lighthouse speaks of a separation from the surrounding world. It is set in a place where many may not want to go, but in order to have the light distinct it must be kept away from the other activities that would provide a false light and hope.

Just as the lighthouse's primary responsibility is not education or history, neither are they the primary functions of the Church. The Church may provide an education in not only sacred but also secular subjects. There are many things concerning the Church's history that is interesting and instructive. The primary function of the Church is to set forth the gospel before fallen men so they too might come to Christ and be a part of God's Family. It also must provide the instruction and guidelines for its members so they can please their Lord and Saviour. Education and history may be

tools to be used in these tasks, but they are not the tasks, themselves.

Can the Church depend upon you to keep the reflector clean and shiny? Can others see the light of the World reflected through your life? Are you doing your part to keep the Church the true lighthouse in this world?

SPIRITUAL VEGETABLE SOUP

(Everyone is needed!)

One could question the validity of bringing a pot of vegetable soup into a Dunkard pulpit, yet a pot full of cardboard vegetables could serve to illustrate an important concept about the Body of Christ. You see, each ingredient that goes into vegetable soup serves a unique and important purpose. Each part compliments the whole. If something is lacking, it will be missed.

Here are some examples of the way the ingredients of vegetable soup work together to fulfill a purpose. Beef serves as the base or the foundation of the soup. Meat gives us protein, which supplies the building blocks of our cells. A strong faith based on the truth of God's Word serves a similar purpose in the Body of Christ.

Carrots provide Vitamin A, which improves sight, and is especially important for night vision. Just so, there are those who can discern between truth and error. We need those among us who can detect false teachings in this world that is darkened with sin.

The water in the soup could be compared to love. Without water, there would be nothing but a "burned-up mess!" And that's what happens in the church when there's a lack of love and understanding.

The vegetables which I would think are less important really do provide necessary vitamins and minerals. These include peppers, parsley and broccoli. (Who ever heard of putting broccoli in vegetable soup?) And the two vegetables I like best are really the least important nutritionally! You can probably guess what they are: corn and lima beans! (At least lima beans provide potassium, which justifies their presence somewhat.) That's just like the Body of Christ – what man holds in high esteem, God places the least value on. (See I Corinthians 12.) The person whose gift or talent is least esteemed among men is most important in the sight of God.

This means that, no matter where you fit into the body of Christ, you are important, and of worth in the sight of God. The

custodian is just as important as the preacher, and someone who is encouragement to another individual is just as important as a teacher. What counts is that each of us is faithful to whatever task God has given us.

One interesting side note: There are a few ingredients in vegetable soup where a little goes a long way! For example, some people wouldn't want to get too many onions in! And a mistake in measuring out thyme and basil can spoil the whole pot! A third example of such a sensitive ingredient is salt. A certain amount of salt is needed, but too much will make the whole pot unpalatable.

The other Saturday afternoon, my dear wife graciously turned over her kitchen to me, so that I could try out my recipe for "Spiritual Vegetable Soup." The only conditions were that I had to use real vegetables instead of cardboard ones, and I had to clean up the kitchen when I was done. Well, I sure botched it that time! I added too much thyme and basil to the meat way too soon – and it smelled rank all afternoon! There was a strong, kind of bitter taste to the soup. I thought it tasted like spoiled meat, but my wife couldn't even put words to the strange, awful taste. Fortunately, nobody got sick on it. But the children voted to go back to mama's cooking, and I got to eat leftover vegetable soup for my lunch all the next week! Fortunately, freezing and reheating helped the flavor somewhat. But I learned that you don't want to get too much spice into the pot! You need to add the spices at the right time.

The point is that Christ is preparing His church for His purposes! (see Ephesians 5.) Someday He will present His church to Himself as His bride! So we need to be sure that we fit into God's plan – and not try to make the church into a kind of religious institution that fits into our perspective of what a church should be.

Are we willing to serve in the Body of Christ even if we can't be a nice, tender, juicy cut of beef? Are we willing to serve in the capacity of a bit of broccoli – which provides Vitamin C? And are we willing to let others serve in the capacity in which they function best – rather than try to force them to serve in a way in which God did not intend? Are we ready to affirm someone else's role in the Body of Christ, no matter whether we secretly think they are more important or less important than we are? Are we willing to let God further His cause by dividing the gifts severally as He will? Our own blend will not serve the purposes for which God intended.

May God help each of us to be a useful and nutritious ingredient in the Body of Christ!

Brother Robert Lehigh

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"A Final Religious System"

Revelation, Chapter 17, reveals some happenings that we see taking place today. This information is not hidden or confusing. It describes a system of religion called Babylon or Mystery. This religious system is becoming very strong and spreading world wide, today. Now, the Church is also being built during this time and is the Bride of Christ. It is holy and eternal. But the harlot of religions, the false church, is reaching across the world into every country and facet of life.

It is quite amazing to see the appeal of "religion" today. And, the Bible tells us that the last religious system will have an unusual appeal to many people. The apostate church has stepped beyond its bounds and has endorsed humanism and along with it, the philosophy called NEW AGE, which is in full swing. Now, remember, the Word is talking about a religious SYSTEM... not a denomination or building.

The power of this false religion will be universal according to verses 1 and 2. This power is not just over a country but is world wide. The Bible tells us that even the kings of the earth are envious of and awed by this religious system and they will lend their power to it for a time. Ultimately it will culminate in the full blown system of the Antichrist.

This system reminds me of a limerick that says:

"A smiling young lady from Niger
took a ride on the back of a tiger;
They came back from the ride
with the lady inside
And the smile was on the face of the tiger."

It well illustrates the world religious system. It will be devoured by a one world leader.

The mark of this last universal system is to be wealth. Are we seeing wealthy religious organizations today? Religion is big business! Some organizations spend up to 50 million dollars each week just to put on their telecasts. We read that religion will be clothed with gold, precious stones and pearls... all representing the luxuries of life. What a trade-off we are seeing... spiritual power for silver and gold.

Throughout history, Christians have been involved in unbelievable persecutions. Christ was crucified by religious leaders. The real enemy of Christ was "religion." Thousands of early Christians were murdered by the false church.

But what about today? The new religious movement of the 1990's is also preaching some incredible things and they are open to persecuting real believers just as they were in Christ's time.

The Unity movement has dropped doctrine as anything goes. I recently worked with a church in my business where the pastor was involved in meditation of the "eastern variety." They say that God doesn't speak to man through His Word and that the deity of Jesus Christ is not important. So... what is their purpose? They desire to unify under experience, emphasis is on social action (not the Bible) and their experience is created through emotionalism.

The New Age, humanistic religion is the fastest growing religion in the world and its supporters believe that the world's economic, military, social, and political problems can be solved by releasing its power... human potential. They talk of "monism"... which in essence denies that there is any separation between humanity and nature or between humans and God. They say they can be or are "gods." They leave the Christian view of a personal God in favor of an impersonal energy or force or consciousness. The New Age god is more of an "it" than a person.

To the New Ager, God is de-throned and man is crowned supreme. The Father in heaven is replaced by the "divine within." They say that to "know" oneself is the key to entering into New Age thinking, to awaken the god who sleeps at the root of our human being. This thinking even permeates our schools. They teach that children must realize the divine within.

To the New Age people, to be "born again" doesn't mean spiritual rebirth through a faith in Jesus Christ and Christian baptism. Instead, it means reincarnation. It is realizing who they are and having the god who is in them now forward. This is plainly Satan's deceit.

God has allowed us to see the beginnings of this religious system that is working to unite every culture, every people and religion. It is unholy, defiled and Satan centered.

New Age people do not talk about sin. They say that "sin is God's hang-up and not man's." This philosophy appeals to sinful man and was believed even as far back as the time of Genesis when Nimrod walked on the face of the earth.

In the month of December, the New Age prayer was again printed in the Readers Digest. It was only a few short years ago that we read in another national publication: "The world has had

enough of hunger, injustice, and war. In answer to our call for help, as world teacher of all humanity, the christ is now here. How will you recognize him? Look for a modern man concerned with modern problems... political, economic, social... He comes not to judge but to aid and inspire." Add to this a climate of the world seeking after peace and safety... and look up... for redemption draws nigh.

Stay close to Christ fellow traveler... closer than you ever have before. Stay cautiously away from anything that has to do with the religious system of this age... the "New Age."

Brother Len Wertz

A FOOLISH APPEAL

Acts 25:9-12, "But Festus, willing to do the Jews a pleasure, answered Paul, and said, Wilt thou go up to Jerusalem, and there be judged of these things before me? Then said Paul, I stand at Caesar's judgment seat, where I ought to be judged: to the Jews have I done no wrong, as thou very well knowest. "For if I be an offender, or have committed any thing worthy of death, I refuse not to die: but if there be none of these things whereof these accuse me, no man may deliver me unto them. I appeal unto Caesar. Then Festus, when he had conferred with the council, answered, Hast thou appealed unto Caesar? unto Caesar shalt thou go."

Acts 26:32, "Then said Agrippa unto Festus, This man might have been set at liberty, if he had not appealed unto Caesar."

Although at the time the Apostle Paul made his appeal to stand before Caesar for judgment it may have appeared to be the best alternative in his situation, later events proved it to be a foolish appeal. We see several spiritual lessons to be found within these few verses. It would be worthwhile to read the entire account which begins with chapter 20 and continues through the rest of the book of Acts.

The first spiritual lesson we find is that Paul was brought to judgement by the Jews for his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Many times we will be wrongly judged if we take a stand for our Lord. Many will judge a desire to live a separated life as being self-righteousness. If we desire to follow the ways of our church we will be judged as legalists. The Jews were religious people. They even claimed to follow the God of the Old Testament. They were, in fact, God's chosen people. However, as a people, they refused to accept God the Son as the promised Messiah. This is still true of the Jews of today. The modern ecumenical movement would

have us accept the Jews and the Moslems as fellow believers in God. However the only true God is the Triune God worshipped by Christians. For declaring this truth we will be brought before the "judgement seat" of such organizations as the World and National Council of Churches and their affiliates as being unloving and judgmental. Will we "appeal to Caesar" and attempt to christianize America, as some advocate, or will we allow the Word of God to vindicate us and accept the false judgement as part of the cross we bear for Christ?

A second spiritual lesson we see is a danger in always desiring to go to the highest office available to solve a problem. There is certainly a need for Annual Conference, District Meetings and local congregational councils. There is also a need for Elders being available to help to solve problems within local assemblies. However, we believe it is best if a problem can be solved at the lowest possible position. If there is personal differences between two brethren or two sisters or a brother and a sister in the church it would be best to try to resolve it between themselves before taking it to Church council. When there is a difference of opinion which involves two congregations we believe it is best if the governing body of the two congregations can try to settle it before taking it to District Conference. Church doctrine should be discussed before it is taken to Annual Conference. If it is something that involves clear Scripture as understood by the Brethren faith there should be no need to take it to Annual Conference but should be settled by local Elders.

To appeal to Caesar, the secular government, in a church dispute is going contrary to Scripture. I Corinthians 6:1-8 speaks clearly on this issue. Yet many church bodies and individuals are making it common practice to go to law against individual believers and church bodies. There are even those within the Plain Churches who have taken this unscriptural step. Our own personal conviction is that it is best not to go to law against even those who are unbelievers.

A third spiritual lesson we find is "Caesar" being a type of our own personal pride. When we make decisions as to what we should or should not do, we often appeal to our own fleshly desires in place of allowing the Word of God to direct our path. Many individuals are appealing to their own righteousness to give them a good standing before God. Romans 14:10 informs us, "...for we shall all stand before the judgement seat of Christ." No appeal to Caesar will be of avail at this time. It is possible that Satan our accuser will be present at this time to bring up every sin we have ever committed. An appeal to Caesar, our own self-righteousness, will only bring us condemnation. There is only one

appeal that will stand the test at this time. This is the appeal to Christ Himself that His blood has cleansed us of all confessed and forsaken sin.

If we appeal unto Caesar, the world or our own fleshly pride and carnal nature, then "unto Caesar" shall we go. We will spend eternity in the lake of fire reserved for the Devil and all his angels. Thank God we have a decision in this matter. We can be set at liberty by repentance, baptism and obedience to the Word of God. We pray that we may not make a foolish appeal but a wise decision to follow Christ and all His ways.

Brother James M. Hite
816 E. Birch St.
Palmyra, PA 17078

SIXTY YEARS AGO

March 1, 1932

HE CARETH FOR YOU

Ord L. Strayer

The lady was fashionably dressed. She was a woman of the world. Her life was made up of parties, beauty parlor appointments, club and society attendances, and all of the mad rush and swirl of modern society entertainments. The man was a worker in the church. He attended his services regularly and had every opportunity to improve his spiritual life. He was not an exceptional man and was constantly forced to fight the ailments that body and soul are heir to. He was well acquainted with the lady beside whom he sat on the conveyance which was taking them both towards the big city. Both the lady and the man had been compelled to fight hardship. The lady's husband was a ne'er-do-well, lazy, inefficient a living example of what a man should not be. As a consequence, the burden of finding a living for the family, which included three children, rested upon the wife's shoulders. Because she was forced to let the children at home with a careless nurse, the youngest child was made physically helpless by malnutrition and spent years in a special institution treating such cases. The girls, growing up under none too good influence, were a source of concern to their mother.

Financial worries, balancing the family budget, tending to the housework, cooking, cleaning and the many other things the housewife may be called upon to do had tried her patience to the utmost. The man had a loving, faithful efficient companion in his home to care for the home and the children in the home. He had a position which afforded moderate comforts and the income therefore was stretched to the utmost by economy and planning in the home. The entire family was blessed with reasonable health,

and yet as he discussed his position in life there appeared a note of complaint and an expression of wonderment that the woman could take her trials so lightly. "Oh, I get so much comfort out of the text, "Casting all your cares upon Him, for He careth for you." It struck the man like a thunderbolt. Here was one whom he thought inferior, who showed more real strength in time of trouble than he had shown in thankfulness for his blessings. A powerful lesson had been administered by this worldly woman to this man who should have known better.

And so it goes. The men and women who have most to be thankful for show the least thankfulness. We who are blessed beyond all people forget utterly Him who blesses so lavishly. Too many of us seek to unload our cares upon Jesus when our hearts and minds are not attuned to His and we have no right to lay hold upon His promises. The lady in our illustration seemed to care little about any part of the Christian religion except the possibility that she might unload her cares. Too many of us who are trying earnestly to follow the principles of Christ forget we have been offered the opportunity to unload our cares upon Him and we stagger about under the load attempting to go on in our own strength. Why should we worry in the face of these promises? "Consider the ravens, they sow not nor gather into barns, and yet your Heavenly Father feedeth them." "Consider the lilies of the field how they grow. They toil not neither do they spin; and yet I say unto you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If God, then, so clothes the grass which today is and tomorrow is cast into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, oh ye of little faith." Are ye not worth more than many sparrows?" "Let not your heart be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in Me."

These and many other promises are for the benefit of the followers of God's word. We have also the testimony of the Old Testament writer, "I have been young, now I am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his seed begging bread." Since, therefore, we have set before us so great, a cloud of witnesses these great and precious promises, let us run with joy the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus as the author and finisher of our faith. Let us lay hold upon all of His precious promises, cheap because they are obtained without money, dear because they are made available through the suffering and death of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, in faith believing and casting all our cares upon Him, for He careth for us.

RIGHTEOUSNESS

Genesis 6:22, "Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he."

Job 1:8, "And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?"

The noise going around today is this: You cannot live a holy life. Even though the Bible admonishes us to "be holy for I (God) am holy", people teach and preach that you cannot live a Godly life. Why would a Holy God save us by the Blood of Jesus, His Son, then embody us with the Holy Spirit and not give us the ability to live for Him in a Holy way? It is truly an amazing thing to me.

Those of our persuasion believe in living a pious, separate, simple, non-resistant, holy, happy life for God and for the benefit of those around us, so that they see Christ in us. If in Christ there is no power to overcome the world, then we need to go back in the Old Testament and see how people like Noah and Job lived righteous lives. If we indeed make this examination, we will find that those deemed righteous or holy back in those times were looking forward to the time when Christ would come and save His people. This faith in the future was counted for righteousness when he believed God about his seed multiplying and that Christ would be a part of them. Many believed in the promise before it happened.

We of this dispensation have been blessed with the scriptures, the Holy Spirit to guide us, a Godly heritage, including the examples of those we have known personally. We have been truly blessed. No previous people have been so blessed as we. Yet the world is perhaps as wicked as it has ever been. Rebellion and sin are everywhere. Temptation is as witchcraft. We struggle daily. The Devil is not only real, he is active, busy and working overtime.

God helped Noah and Job when they were seemingly the only men on earth serving Him. Noah preached 120 years and only brought his family aboard the ark. In the case of Job, Satan thought everyone on earth was living in sin until God reminded him of Job. These were stark times in which to live. In our day, sin abounds. But for the Christian, Praise God, GRACE does that much the more abound. Moses was able to write of Noah that he did ALL that God commanded. God told Satan that Job was perfect. How shall he speak of us? What shall be His Judgment of us?

Brother Lynn H. Miller
RD 2 Box 561
Newmanstown, PA 17073

OUR SATURDAY NIGHT

Turning from the Wrong

J. H. Moore

In the early part of my ministry it fell to my lot to do considerable preaching in a locality where the Brethren were very

little known. In time several applied for membership, and were baptized. Among them were a man and wife of good standing in the community. They not only united with the church, but they left the world. Everybody could see that they were converted. They did not have to tell people that they were Christians. Their lives told the story, and told it well. To preach to the people in that neighborhood was simply a delight. It was like cultivating corn in a productive soil. One could see the seed of the kingdom grow.

Possibly a year later the brother came to me and said that he and his wife had been at a very worldly Fourth of July celebration. In that part of the country the people did not come together to worship God on the Fourth, but merely for amusement, and the amusement in which they engaged was by no means of the innocent class. Well, the brother told the whole story, how he and his wife happened to get there, and how they happened to find themselves looking at the dancing on the dancing floor. Finally the wife said, "I believe this is no place for Christians. Let us go home." The brother thought the same way, though the wife spoke first.

But they went home, and after thinking the matter all over, the brother decided to ask me what I thought about it, whether I thought they had done wrong. I told him that in my judgment they had done just right, not by attending the place of amusement, but by going home. I then added, that if they would always do that way when they got into places where Christians had no business they would greatly please the Lord. I did not tell them to come to the church and make a public confession, but I did tell some of the other members what advice I had given.

That lesson has been useful to me in more ways than one. The importance of turning my back on places unbecoming Christians was forcibly impressed upon my mind. And really, that is the very essence of vital piety. When one gets into a place where saints have no business, what better thing can he do than to get out of it of his own free will? And then, when one of his own free will does correct a wrong, why not let the matter rest?

I know that some people think that all matters of this kind should be made right before the church. Of course some of them may be of such a public and aggravated character that they should be thus disposed of, but it will be wise to make a reasonable discrimination. I have sometimes urged members to come before the church of their own accord and tell the members just what they had done. But when it was evident that they had done the right thing in correcting their own mistakes I did not care to force a public confession from them.

I want to impress on the mind of each reader that a public, forced confession for a little mistake is not always the best thing to demand. This, of course, does not apply to aggravated cases. But when we see that a weak member is doing all he can to amend his ways, or to correct his unintentional mistakes, why not encourage him? That would be Christianlike. In fact that is the course that love would dictate.

In exacting public confessions for mistakes of the character mentioned – if they can be called mistakes – we may go just far enough to discourage some of those who are weak. If they are strong enough to turn away from sin, and then seek the ways of right, the turning ought to be regarded as a sufficient confession. True, with the tongue confession should be made, but oftentimes the turning of the whole body and life from an unintentional wrong speaks much louder than it is possible for words to speak. I would not give one voluntary turning away from error for all the forced confessions ever made. In fact I can hardly make myself believe that any good can result from a forced confession, but I do know that there is virtue in a voluntary departure from sin.

ADULTERY IS NOT PERMITTED, BUT CONDEMNED IN CHRIST'S TEACHINGS

The Lord of Heaven, hath made man
To walk this earth, a short life's span,
A rib He took, a wife He made
For man to be his best comrade.

The marriage vow, a sacred one
For man and wife, till their race is run,
No parting scheme the Word does grant
But joined together their life to spend.

But Satan has come and wedged between
This union though of "one flesh" has been,
And wrecked apart and spoiled the choice
By his deceiving method: called "Divorce".

ReMarriage now is considered right
By those who lay, All-God's Word, a-side,
But God's Word still does condemn
This devil's trap, in God's great plan.

Selected by Bro. John H. Kintzel

NEWS ITEMS**QUINTER, KANSAS**

Please Note: The Spring Lovefeast at Quinter will be one week later than the usual fixed date.

The Lord willing, Bro. David Skiles will bring a message Friday night, March 27, with all day services on Saturday and Sunday. We invite you all to come be with us.

Sister Rhonda Snyder, Cor.

LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

Bro. Jan Heisey from Pine Ridge, Mississippi has consented to be our evangelist this spring from March 29 through April 5.

We ask an interest in your prayers and presence in these meetings.

Sister Dorcas Myers, Cor.

GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

We at the Grandview, Missouri Congregation are looking forward to our Spring Lovefeast and District Meeting, April 11 through 13. The Lord willing services will begin Saturday, April 11, at 11:00 A.M. with Lovefeast at 6:00 P.M. that evening. There will be services all day Sunday and District Meeting on Monday.

We welcome all who can, to come and worship with us.

Sister Sandy Meyers, Cor.

BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

The ice was cut and stacked on the bank, leaving a path of frigid looking water. The chilly winter wind blasted across the frozen pond at a below zero wind chill. This day, January 12, 1992, we witnessed the baptism of Nadine and Damar Noecker, children of Bro. and Sis. Richard Noecker. As I stood there in my layers of clothing and still shaking uncontrollably from the cold, I wondered if I could've been as courageous. Praise God for their courage!!

The Bethel Congregation is also planning for Revival Meetings April 12 through 19. A different speaker is scheduled for each evening. You're invited to worship with us.

Sister Grace Reed, Cor.

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BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 6

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU

May God bless you and be with you
When you are tempted and tried.
May God bless you – He will keep you
When you will in Him abide.
May God bless you when your cross seems
Almost too heavy to bear.
May God bless you when you're seeking
For an answer to your prayer.
May God bless you now and always,
When your days are dark or bright.
May God bless you and take your hand,
His leading be your delight.
May God bless you with His love-light
That will guide you in His way.
May God bless you – He will never
Let your footsteps go astray.

Sister Irene Stout
R. 1 Box 160
Wabash, IN 46992

RECREATION

Recreation is one of the major parts of today's modern lifestyle. Time, money and effort is invested in having a good time. Often working moments are spent either dreaming of the pleasure to come or even to support the expense of the pleasure. This time is looked forward to, throughout the workweek. When it arrives no price is too great in physical or financial pain to keep it from happening. Pleasure must be served. The return from the pleasure trip often is not nearly as enjoyable as the going was. Even the first day or two back at work will be subpar days, until the next pleasure outing becomes the goal.

Originally the word, "recreation" meant "to recreate" or to renew the body. The idea of recreation is to give the body a new lease on life. After times of stress and hard work, the body needs a change of pace. Often it just needs rest. At other times there is a need for exercise. The change in activity is good for the body and helps restore the mental capacity also.

Jesus recognized the necessity of times of refreshing. He told His disciples to come apart from the crowd and to rest. He often retired from the busy places so He could have special times of Spiritual enrichment. He realized what recreation really was.

But today the idea of recreation has little relationship with the original idea of restoring the body and the mind. Today recreation includes many activities, that in no way, foster the betterment of the mind and body. Many sports are played as a business proposition. These sports have a few masterful participants, who depend upon massive audiences to supply their

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financial support. These spectators are supposedly getting their recreation, but they are just occupying seats and often indulging in other harmful habits. They are certainly not renewing their bodies as they smoke, drink, party and do nothing more than cheer and clap.

Other recreations have also become less than what they might pretend to be. Recreation that includes exercise often becomes something else than just exercise. It often becomes an expensive undertaking demanding immodest apparel and relationships that are not healthy. The witness that these activities leave with unbelievers may be poor as they see the things brought into the Christians' lives that are just like theirs. Immodest apparel and relationships can lead to health problems, such as the harmfulness of the sun's rays.

When Jesus spoke of recreation, He most often had in mind rest. The stresses and strains of the modern world create many mental as well as physical problems. Often there needs to be a backing away and a getting away from those stresses. The best place to do so is with the Church. Whether in worship or in visiting or in counseling or in fellowship or in study, all these activities provide a way to get God's idea of recreation into our lives. These activities may not be as strenuous as the more popular idea of play, but they provide a renewing of the body, soul, mind and spirit.

One of God's main ways of drawing His children away from the stresses and activities of this world is the provision of one day out of seven as a day of rest. He recognized, as man's Creator, what was best for man. He established the rule of working actively for six days, but then to set aside the seventh day as a day for rest and renewing the inner man. Because of the importance of Jesus' resurrection, that day of rest has been on the first day of the week since that time. As a day of rest, Sunday should not be used as an occasion for recreation as the world pursues it. As the special day set aside for worship, there should not be a great rush to get through the required services of the day, so pleasure can be pursued the rest of the day, whether that pleasure is with the surrounding world or with other believers. Physical rest cannot come with strenuous activity and mental rest cannot come with activities that wear down body and mind. Spiritual rest cannot come with the pleasures and playthings that are so attractive to the world about us.

When thousands can gather for sports events and to the beach and the mountains, but only handfuls gather for the worship of God, there is a sad imbalance in the priorities of this world. But

even sadder is when Christians have the same attitude toward these activities.

How are you getting your recreation? Is it the recreation that will renew and restore the body, mind, soul and spirit? Will it honor your Creator?

QUESTIONS

I received a letter from a man who was taking a religious course. He was seeking answers to the following theological and church-related questions.

1. What ordinances or sacraments are observed by your church and why?
2. What do you feel is the extent of the woman's role in the church?
3. What type of outreach do you have to increase membership at your church, and what are the requirements for membership?
4. What view does your church hold on predestination to salvation and eternal security?
5. Is there any Biblical justification for war, and does the current Gulf War tie in to Biblical prophecy in any way?
6. What version of Scriptures does your church use, and why?

The young people, as a class project gave the following brief answers with the offer to give more details where desired.

1. We accept the Word of the New Testament as a message from Heaven, (Heb. 1:1-2), and teach it in full (II Tim. 4:1-2, Matt. 28:20).

We baptize believers by trine immersion (Matt. 28:19), with a forward action (Rom. 6:5), for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38, 22-16), and lay hands on those baptized, asking upon them the gift of God's Spirit (Acts 19:5-6).

We follow the command and example of washing one another's feet (John 13:4-17).

We take the Lord's Supper at night (John 13:30), at one and the same time, tarrying one for another (I Cor. 11:33-34).

We take communion at night, after supper, as did the Lord (Luke 22:19-20).

We greet one another with a holy kiss (Acts 20:37, Rom. 16:16, I Pet. 5:14).

We anoint and lay hands on the sick (James 5:14-15, Mark 6:13).

We teach all the doctrines of Christ, peace (Heb. 12:14), love (I Cor. 13), unity (Eph. 4), both faith and works (James 2:17-20).

Sisters, cover, and brethren, uncover their heads in worship (I Cor. 11:3-10).

We labor for nonconformity to the world in its vain and wicked customs (Rom. 12:2, I Tim. 2:9-10, I Pet. 3:3-5).

We refrain from going to law (I Cor. 6:1-8).

Musical instruments are not used in worship (Eph. 5:19, Cor. 3:16, Amos 6:5).

We advocate nonswearing (Matt. 5:34-37), and anti-secretism (II Cor. 6:14-17, Matt. 24:26), opposition to war (John 18:36), doing good to all men (Matt. 5:44, 46).

2. Christian women may function and should be helpful in many ways, but a female official in the church or a female ministry in the sense of preaching, is without Scriptural authority (Luke 8:3, Acts 21:9, I Cor. 14:31, Rom. 16:1-3, I Tim. 2:11-12).

3. Personal testimony and invitation, Bible school, support of mission work and community aid.

A person must be willing to be governed by the scriptures as understood by the Church and enter into covenant with God and the Church through baptism.

4. We believe that man is a free moral agent with the right to choose (Josh. 24:15). Predestination means foreknowledge of God.

We believe we must be faithful until death (Jude 5).

5. Please read the following scriptures (John 18:36, II Cor. 10:4, Matt. 5:44, Rom. 12:2). God may use or permit war but we believe God's people cannot conscientiously engage in war.

The unifying of nations may be the important event relating to prophecy.

6. King James Version. We have continued to use it because it is as accurate as newer translations and people who grew up with the old English have no trouble with it. Also it is difficult for them to change.

How would you have answered these questions?

Brother Robert Carpenter

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"Complaining IS sin"

Do you know anyone who is a chronic complainer? Are you? It seems like this is one of the practices we see routinely among Christian people. It is ironic that we have a very long list of "things we wouldn't do" and "not complaining" is seldom noted

there. Yet, we can look at Numbers 11:1 and find that complaining kindles the anger of the Lord. **GOD HATES COMPLAINING!**

Just how badly does God hate it? He sent a great fire to burn some of the tents of the Israelites as punishment for their complaints. And, He sent poisonous snakes on another occasion. He had parted the Red Sea so the people could safely escape the slavery under the Egyptians. He drowned Pharaoh's army when he pursued them into that sea. He gave the people bread from heaven to eat every day and yet... they complained.

Now, for just a moment, let's think about what God has done for us. He has saved us from eternal destruction by removing our sins. He has given us His love letter for guidance. We have wonderful Christian friends who care about us. And we have so much food that many of us have to watch our weight as a result of overeating. Our closets are full of clothing and we have a struggle deciding what to wear. Yet, **WE COMPLAIN!** We complain about others in the fellowship, we complain about the high cost of living, about our government, the weather, the food, the church, God's rules and high standards for living and so it goes.

Most people probably spend some time every day complaining.... God's people. Do we understand that if complaining is sin... then we are sinning? It shows a lack of trust in our God who constantly does so much for us. And not only that, it ruins our personality. Who wants to be around a chronic complainer? We want to avoid him or her. We need to admit that this is sin and ask God for victory to overcome this bad practice. Phil. 2:14-15 teaches us that we are to do all things without grumbling or questioning that we might be innocent and blameless.

Where does this complaining start. It starts in our hearts and comes from what we think. We begin to verbalize the wrong thoughts that are in our mind. We forget the blessings and begin to center our thoughts on the negatives of life. The Israelites talked and thought so much about the "good old days" in Egypt that it took snake bites to bring them to their senses. They forgot that God was with them where they were at that moment. It was a good time in their life because God was a part of it.

If we keep thinking or saying something, we soon believe it and act upon it. Saying and believing the wrong things is so serious that God sometimes has to take drastic measures to put us back on track. When you begin to think that you are the only one in the church that is right and everyone else is wrong and you complain about it, remember the snakes that were needed to teach a valuable lesson to complainers. Let the meditation of your heart

and the words of your mouth be acceptable in the Lord's sight. Let your speech be gracious and seasoned with salt.

Along with complaining and closely related to it is the person who constantly puts himself above others and cuts others down. These are people who constantly brag about themselves and see everyone else as inferior. Their conversations are seasoned with "I don't care what anyone says" or "Nobody is going to tell me..." These are individuals who easily get into arguments if anyone even says anything mildly offensive to them. It is also common for these persons not to listen because it deprives them of the opportunity to be bitter, complain and proclaim what they think.

The Bible has names for these people. It calls them "scoffers" and "fools." These are harsh, incriminating terms but they well show the attitude of God toward these actions.

I would encourage you to be the optimistic and cheerful one when others around you are complaining. You be the one to say something nice about the individual others are putting down. You be the one to change the environment to one that is filled with the spirit of the Lord rather than the spirit of evil. **YOU CAN MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON OTHERS AROUND YOU IF YOU CONCENTRATE ON GOD'S BEST AND COMMUNICATE THE BEST TO OTHERS.**

Brother Len Wertz

"WITCH" WAY IS IT?

Recently I read an article on the Salem Witch Trials in a magazine on early American life. It was well written and brought out a few facts of great interest that I'd like to share. It seems that the whole thing started as some teenagers got involved with a woman who practiced witchcraft. By this dabbling in the occult they opened themselves to satanic influences that seemed to control them. Unfortunately, one thing led to another and many people suffered needlessly and many were put to death.

It proves a few things however, for one thing, the masses saw witchcraft as a real and dangerous force to be dealt with. Secondly, they saw Satan as being behind it all. And thirdly, though somewhat misguided they saw Jehovah God's disgust with these practices. (He even told Old Testament Israel, "Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live.")

We have come a long way in three-hundred years. Today it seems we have been lulled to sleep by the modern age that we live in. The practices that the Bible condemned as sorcery and witchcraft are today flourishing right around us. (Fortune telling,

mystical forms of healing/pow wow, use of the divining rod, and many others that we are not even aware of.) Some call themselves white witches and feel there is nothing wrong with their practices.

Witch way is it?

Although I don't believe that God wants New Testament Christians to kill anyone, I do believe He does want us as a people to have a definite standard of right and wrong based upon His Word and His Will. While some religious leaders think erroneously that we should accept witchcraft as another alternative, the Bible teaches that this is not right and will bring eternal damnation to those involved.

So what is the answer? Jesus Christ died to save even those involved in witchcraft from their sins. He arose from the dead in a show of power and victory over Satan and his bondage. If you will repent of your sins and put your trust in Jesus' substitutionary death on the cross you can be saved and set free... whom the Lord sets free is free indeed. Furthermore, professing Christians need to turn away from anything that has questionable or occult ties. We don't need them! "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not on thine own understandings. In ALL thy ways acknowledge him and He will direct thy paths." Proverbs 3:5-6.

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RECOGNIZING OUR HUMAN WEAKNESS

I John 1:8, "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

Romans 6:1-2, "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?"

Romans 7:19, "For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do."

Romans 7:24-25, "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin."

While there are some portions of Scripture that seem to teach spiritual perfection in this life, the Brethren faith has historically held to the teaching of progressive sanctification. If we are completely honest we believe that our lives will prove this theological position to be true.

The message of I John 1:8 is a reality in each and every one of our lives. We say this without being judgemental of anyone who claims otherwise. While the sin in my life may not be the same that troubles you, we are convinced that each of us must recognize our human weakness. Romans 14:23b tells us, "for whatsoever is not of faith is sin." Is every step of our life led by our faith? Can we truly say that we are faithful to every New Testament teaching every day of our lives? Is our relationship with others, as commanded by Holy Scripture, always exactly as it should be? James 4:17 tells us, "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." Can we honestly say that we have always made the right decisions in our lives, even when the Holy Spirit seemed to be leading in a certain direction?

But Romans 6:1-2 teaches us that we cannot excuse our human weakness to allow us to feel comfortable in our sin. It should be our desire to live above sin. According to II Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." A truly born again experience should bring new desires into our lives. As has been well said, "Those things I once hated I now love, and those things I once loved I now hate."

However, even as a new creature we often feel as the Apostle Paul expresses in Romans 7:19. But I John 1:9 assures us, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Then in the very next verse John reminds us that even Christians who have been forgiven will need forgiveness from time to time. "If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." To put additional emphasis on this John in the very next chapter, verse one (and the chapters are man-made though helpful) has this to say. "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." We must remember that it is "JESUS CHRIST THE RIGHTEOUS," not (put your name in) the righteous. It is true that Scripture refers to those washed in the blood as the righteous. But it is the righteousness of Jesus Christ, not our own righteousness, that God recognizes.

If you consider yourself too holy to declare, "O wretched man that I am," then you may be suffering from self delusion or even self righteousness. We have mentioned the danger of self love in many of our writings. But as long as this false teaching continues to be taught we feel a need to continue to expose it. In addition to the teaching of self love there is another practice that is very

prevalent within the earthly church. We confess that we have found ourself to be guilty of this. In II Corinthians 10:12 we are warned, "For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise."

How shall we be delivered from the body of this death? Paul says, "I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord." The Lord Jesus Christ is my salvation, my sanctification and will be my glorification! As song writer Wm. J. Kirkpatrick put it,

"My only hope, my only plea,
Now I'm coming home,
That Jesus died, and died for me,
Lord, I'm coming home;
O wash me whiter than the snow,
Lord I'm coming home."

This becomes all the more important when we realize that "So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin."

Yet in recognizing this I must heed the warning of Romans 8:1 (often quoted out of context). This immediately follows our previous thoughts, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." We must recognize our human weakness. But let us never use this as an excuse to walk after the flesh in place of after the Spirit.

If you have never been washed in the blood and baptized you are still in your sins in need of a Savior. You need the righteousness of Jesus Christ to enter Heaven. Do not be foolish and compare yourself with anyone else but Jesus Christ. Christians fail but never their Christ.

Brother James M. Hite
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SIXTY YEARS AGO

March 15, 1932

MODERN TRICKERY

J. F. Britton

"Your iniquities have turned away these things, and your sins have withholden good things from you. For among my people are found wicked men: they lay wait, as he that setteth snares; they set a trap, they catch men." (Jer. 5:25-26).

Unfortunately and to the discredit of our country, the very elements seem to vibrate with cries of depression, suppression

and oppression. What is wrong? What is the cause of all this unrest, embarrassment and suffering?

The answer to these distressing questions are set forth in the Scripture at the beginning of this article. For, just as it was in Jeremiah's time, there were wicked and treacherous men who imposed their vile trickery upon the unsuspecting, so it is today; our country is completely monopolized and organized for profiteering for greed. Our Financial boards, and political bodies are polluted with diplomatic trickery.

It is a lamentable shame that our social virtues, moral economics and even the hygienic care of our human bodies are punctured and contaminated with modern trickery. The Liquor Forces are spending large sums of money circulating their deceptive and spurious propaganda, with the view of breaking down and demolishing our Prohibition Laws to further their own iniquitous interests. The Tobacco Legions have virtually decoyed and snared a large percent of our people with their perverted and debasing business. Eternity alone can and will disclose the irreparable effects of fostering perverted appetites, at the expense and sacrifice of duties. Listen to the pitiful cries of little children for the necessities of life. No wonder Isaiah said, "wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which satisfieth not?" (Isaiah 55:2).

Last, but not least, those wicked modern designers have corrupted much of our literature. Many of our magazines and other periodicals are polluted and desecrated with cigarettes and cigar "ads" and obscene pictures of practically nude women and girls, to the alarming extent, that there are few magazines or periodicals worthy to be put into the hands of our American youth to direct and inspire them to noble lives.

Hence, the burning question: Who is responsible for all this debasing profligacy? There is but one true answer: It is the fruit and irrefutable effect of "the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life." Therefore it stands to reason and is logical, that, lust of the flesh and eyes, a perverted appetite, pride and arrogancy are the Hydraheaded Monsters that have fastened their atrocious fangs in the life blood of this nation.

It should be noted with some degree of seriousness, that our text reads: "For among my people are found wicked men; they lay wait, as he that setteth snares; they set a trap, they catch men." My, what a heart-rending picture of the modern churches. No wonder, Isaiah, looking through his prophetic eyes, wrote of the sad conditions of the modern churches: "From the sole of the foot even unto the head, there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores; they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment." (Isa. 1:6).

Through modern diplomatic trickery and strategy, our churches have been hoodwinked and desecrated with pageants, oyster suppers and dances, and those old sweet songs of Zion that were sung with the "Spirit and the understanding" which brought forth tears of joy from the eyes of the congregation, have been displaced with ragtime and jazz; and the sermons that were heralded from the pulpit by Spirit-filled preachers, called by God, whose hearts were afire with the Holy Ghost; and whose messages were delivered in the demonstration and power of the Spirit of God, and moved men and women to repentance and reformation of life, have been discontinued at the expense and sacrifice of Godliness, Holiness and Spirituality. Alas, Alas, and Oh, how sad, that through trickery and false teaching by the modern "P. H. D.'s" our churches have been so badly incapacitated, that they are hardly able to point the fore-finger upward and cry aloud, "Behold the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world."

"Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there?" (Jer. 8:22) Yes, there is a Balm and a Physician for all sin-sick souls who are willing to separate themselves from those Christless Systems of religion that are punctured with non-essentials and void of many of the doctrines and principles taught by Christ, and "there is none other name under Heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12).

Unfortunately, however, the same old Satanic Deceiver that hoodwinked and beguiled Adam and Eve, is still busy at his job, and today, through modern trickery and wicked devices, has so hoodwinked and debauched the modern churches, that they are virtually void of Godliness, Holiness and Spirituality. The reader should note that the terms trickery, conspiracy and machination are similar in meaning, design and purpose. Therefore it stands to reason and is logical that the Dunkard Brethren Church should stand united, bound together by the strong ties of Spiritual Love and Unity, "Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices." (II Cor. 2:11)

Hence we are confronted with a stupendous challenge. We will need to read our Bibles, and take the WORD of GOD, as a "lamp unto our feet, and a light unto our path." (Ps. 119:115). We will also need to spend some time on our knees in prayer to God for grace, strength and Spiritual Discretion to direct us in the midst of these perilous and depressive times, in which wicked men and false teachers, are on the alert with their satanic devices to derail Christians from the main track of true Gospel piety and spirituality.

So let us pray, Holy Father, keep and sanctify us through thy truth and power, that we may glorify thee here upon the earth,

that thou mayest glorify us, in the home of the Redeemed, "where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest. Amen.

NOT ASHAMED

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

The other day I received a letter in the mail. It had no return address, but it had been mailed from St. Louis, Missouri according to the cancellation seal. I opened it, and it contained two gospel tracts, surrounded with plain paper so the tracts would not show through the envelope. I read the tracts. They were good, well written, and I agreed with them. I do not believe I know anyone from St. Louis, so why all the secrecy?

I have gotten other letters like this. There was no reason why the person mailing the letter could not have included their name or return address. I had no disagreement with the material presented. Was the subject of the gospel tracts intended to be an attack on me personally? Sometimes I believe they have been, but not these. I agreed with these. If there was nothing personal, then why not say who you are?

I believe the underlying problem here is the simple fact that some are afraid of the Gospel: they are ashamed of it. If that person would have had the courtesy (and that is all it is, a courtesy, like saying, "please" and "thank you") to include his or her address, they would probably have received a letter from me. I probably would have thanked them for the tracts and exchanged a few pleasantries. This person apparently thought I would be upset with the tracts. (Usually people only send tracts that they agree with to people they don't agree with.) They, therefore, did not look forward to a reply from me.

If we have a noble thought to share with others, and believe fervently that this thought is true, and if we believe that the Holy Spirit of God is directing our steps in relaying this information, then the scripture tells us that this gospel is the very POWER OF GOD UNTO SALVATION. Need we be afraid to share this gospel? Not if we are children of God. The gospel is the POWER OF GOD. We, on the other hand, are only instruments. But still, we need not fear what man will do or say to us. Many have criticized us for not being more evangelistic. Sadly, much of this criticism has been justified. We must spread this gospel.

There are very few things of which I am absolutely certain. I do know that I was born a sinner, for so says the Bible. The older I became, the worse a sinner I became. In my early teen years the Lord began to deal with me, and I began to run from Him. For seven years I ran until I could run away no more. I surrendered my soul and body to Him. I needed a Saviour and found one in

Jesus Christ. I repented of my sins and asked Him into my heart to dwell there. That day I also decided to serve Him. I believe He is able to finish in me what He started. I am also not ashamed of the Gospel, because I know God saved me back in 1972. We must proclaim our salvation because there are many trying to disclaim it. Sadly, those who claim Christ are often those trying hardest to make us look bad. What is our best defense against those that rail against us? The defense of the Gospel. Let them accuse me of anything, just so they can also accuse me of spreading the Gospel. Look what they accused our Lord of. He was illegitimate. He was from a poor part of the country. He ate with publicans. He had dubious relations with unsavory women. And He made Himself the Son of God.

It is this Son of God of whom we speak. We are not ashamed of Him. The Greeks raised up a statue to the unknown god. It is of Him we speak to you now. Today He is as unknown as He was then. The world does not see Him because we do not lift Him up.

Brother Lynn H. Miller
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NEWS ITEMS

PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

The Pleasant Ridge Congregation has planned their Spring Communion services for Saturday, March 21. Services are to begin at 11:00 A.M., with the Communion Service at 7:00 P.M. Come and worship with us.

Sister Eileen Broadwater, Cor.

QUINTER, KANSAS

The Quinter Congregation has decided to hold their Spring Lovefeast on their set date the third week-end of March despite previous announcement. Our Meetings will begin Friday evening, March 20 with Bro. Wayne Burgess of the McClave Congregation being our speaker. Other services will be held on March 21 and 22 with the Lovefeast on the evening of the 21st. We invite all who can to come and enjoy this time with us.

Sister Rhonda Snyder, Cor.

A NOTE OF THANKS

I wish to thank each one who sent me birthday cards. I really enjoyed them all. May the Lord bless each of you.

In Christian love,
Sister Martha Shaffer

MY SINCERE THANKS

I cannot put into words my most sincere thanks and appreciation to the members of our brotherhood for the many cards, telephone calls, letters and so forth that I have received over the holidays and during my hospitalization.

I received many more of each for my eighty-eighth birthday for which I cannot fully express my appreciation.

Several months ago I suffered a stroke. Through the stroke I have lost a lot of my facilities and dexterity. They are slowly improving and my doctor tells me I might, in time, get back to about eighty per cent of normal.

It is impossible at the present time to personally answer all my mail. I use this means to acknowledge receipt of much mail. If and when I progress enough I will attempt to keep my correspondence current.

There are over our Brotherhood, Brethren and Sisters who are handicapped with afflictions of some type. So much so that at many congregations it has affected their average attendance.

I would like to see and PURPOSE that the Dunkard Brethren Church (Brotherhood wide) set a day for Special prayer for the aged, infirm, handicapped, and those who have heart rending problems. Also, to include in these prayers a plea for the unsaved to seek Jesus Above. All pray earnestly and fervently against the sin, corruption, pray for the millions who have been laid off, lost farms, homes and so forth. Pray for peace to rule once again on this earth. I believe a day of special prayer would cause things to be better. Keep in mind, PRAYER CHANGES THINGS.

I thank my Heavenly Father for His closeness, His comfort, His healing power. For providing the plan of Salvation. Just what would we do without Him?

To each and every one who is ill, handicapped or a shut in, be thankful it is not worse. To all those who are enjoying good health, be especially thankful.

Rely on your faith in Him. "He is touched by our infirmities." "He will never leave nor forsake us." "His arm is not shortened."

The older I become, the more I realize the need for living a Christian life. May we each live for Jesus so we can think and say like the Apostle Paul in Philippians 1:21, "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Elder Paul R. Myers

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR APRIL 1992

April 5 - "The Half Was Not Told Me" - I Kings 10:1-29.

1. What impressed the Queen of Sheba?
2. How did Solomon exceed all other kings? verse 23.

April 12 - Solomon's Sin - I Kings 11:1-43.

1. How could a man of such wisdom fall for such a sin?
2. How important are life's companions? What spiritual impact do they have on our life?

April 19 - THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST - John 20:1-31.

1. What does the resurrection mean to you?
2. Why were Jesus' followers surprised by His resurrection?

April 26 - Rehoboam, King of Israel - I Kings 12:1-33.

1. What character flaws did Rehoboam have?
2. What caused the division of the kingdom?

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR APRIL 1992

April 5 - Spiritual Blindness - Isa. 59:1-10, Matt. 6:22-24, II Cor. 4:3-6, Eph. 4:7-14.

1. What causes our spiritual sight to diminish?
2. How can we improve our spiritual vision?

April 12 - Raising of Lazarus - John 11:1-45.

1. Why did Jesus wait until Lazarus died?
2. Why did Jesus weep?

April 19 - THE RESURRECTION - Luke 24:1-31.

1. What is the meaning of resurrection?
2. What value is the resurrection to us?

April 26 - Charity - I Cor. 13, I Pet. 4:1-10.

1. How does charity differ from other types of love?
2. List the qualifications of charity.

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

'TIS NOW IN PART

'Tis now in part I know the Lord,
I see Him in His written word,
I see Him mirrored in His grace:
But, oh! to see Him face to face.

'Tis now in part I know His love,
Which bro't Him from the realms above;
But, oh! to reach that blissful sphere,
And from His lips the story hear.

'Tis now in part, I know His hand,
Which led me thro' this desert land;
But, oh! to stand before His throne,
With ev'ry dark'ning shadow flows.

'Tis now in part I know His joy,
My strength when anxious fears annoy;
But, oh! to see Him as He is,
My raptur'd heart pres'd close to Him.

- M. B. Wharton

CHAINS

Acts 12:1-19 tells of the seemingly hopeless situation of the Apostle Peter the night before his trial before King Herod. Herod's killing of James had raised his popularity with the Jews, now he was going to eliminate Peter. Peter was not only confined to an innermost cell but was guarded by four soldiers who were in the cell with him. Two of the soldiers were chained to his wrists, while the other two guarded the doorway. Sound asleep in this cell, so closely guarded, Peter awaited the events of the next day.

Peter's faith was great enough that he could sleep soundly in his cell. Peter was not a nervous man, fearing what the morrow would bring. In the midst of this deep sleep he was suddenly awakened by an angel who hastened Peter to arise and be on his way out of that prison. The chains fell from Peter's wrists and he was soon able to make his way out of that prison. When he came to the main exit from the prison to the street, the great iron gate swung open by itself and soon Peter was out in the street. The angel accompanied him some distance from the prison, until Peter realized that all this was actually happening to him and was not a dream, as he had thought.

This account certainly gives a very dramatic lesson of God's ability to deliver His people out of their dangers. The miraculous power that was exhibited on Peter's behalf is certainly an encouragement to all who stand in need of His help.

Peter was chained in prison because he was one of the leaders of the early Christian Church. He was not there because of any particular fault of his own. But this account has another important lesson. From this account, application can be made concerning

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some Christians who are bound by their own chains of sin, pride and attitude.

The angel found Peter asleep. There are many Christians who are asleep for they have limited their usefulness in serving God, the Church and others. The chains that bind them are many and only a few can be mentioned.

The chains of pride are very common ones. Pride causes them to go their own way in the Christian journey. They do not need the direction of the Word of God nor of the Church. They will not be governed by any other rule than their own. What seems right to them is right, no matter what the counsel of the Bible, the Church or their Brethren. The chains of pride will hold them fast in their self-imposed prison.

The chains of covetousness holds many as they seek after the riches and things of the surrounding world. Their interests are not the interests that should be the Christian's foremost desire. They want to acquire great bank accounts or much property or other evidences of worldly well-being. They want to succeed in the world of sports and pleasure, so have little time for the activities of the Church. Their desires are those that will further their temporal and material lives but not their Spiritual.

The chains of love may keep the Christian bound to the world instead of Christ. When the love and concern of the Christian becomes stronger for his family and friends than for the God who has saved him, he begins to do what will please those whom he loves rather than serve God. Family pressures or special relationships with those of the world may soon bring compromise into his life. No longer does he put God at the forefront of his life.

Many other chains bind Christians and prevent them from giving God their best. The angel gave Peter four things to do after he awakened him. He was to gird himself, put on his sandals, put on his outer garment and to follow. These instructions are needed in the lives of bound and useless Christians.

They need to gird up their minds so they can decide to serve God wholly. They need to get loose of the chains that have held them. They need to be shod, so they can walk the Christian walk of life. They need to be put on that strait and narrow pathway that will lead to Heaven. They need to put on their outer garment as protection from the cold and other dangers that lie about them. Being properly garbed, they must follow the direction of God's Spirit through His Word, the Church and His abiding Spirit within.

Peter's escape was very dramatic, but no more so than the escape that any chained Christian can make. If you find yourself bound, now is the time to get loose, for the bonds will only grow tighter the longer they hold you. Be Free to serve God.

RESURRECTION MORNING

Very early in the morning
On the first day of the week,
Came women to the sepulchre
The HOLY ONE to seek.

The sun was peeking thru the sky
As they trod upon their way,
They had brought sweep spices with them
To anoint the LORD that day.

How they pondered as they journeyed
Who shall roll away the STONE?
It was huge and round and heavy
And the women were alone.

As they came into the garden
Near the place where Jesus lay,
They found the tomb molested
For there was a quake that day.

The ANGEL of the LORD descended
Came and rolled the stone away,
Then HE sat upon it, VICTOR
Proving GOD shall have HIS way.

HIS countenance was like lightening
And HIS raiment white as snow,
Manifesting power and glory
That all who saw might know.

And for fear of HIM the keepers
Of the sepulchre did shake,
And became as many dead men
Not a one a sound did make.

He spoke to them so clearly
Why seek the living among the dead?
HE is not here, but is risen
Remember not, what HE had said?

Come in and see the empty Tomb
Behold the place where He did lay,
Go tell the APOSTLE PETER
That CHRIST arose this day.

And tell the other DISCIPLES
Of things you've seen and heard,
For the empty TOMB this morning
Bears the trueness of GOD'S WORD.

In obedience to the ANGEL'S word
With haste they sought the few
JESUS met them on their journey
But was hidden from their view.

Many times since CHRIST arose
HE'S appeared to mankind,
Touching hearts and souls within us
Bringing to us peace of mind.

Since CHRIST became the first-fruits,
And burst forth from the grave
We now have hope ETERNAL
Of a living soul to save.

I know the TOMB is empty
I saw it with mine eyes,
Give GOD the praise and glory
For a home beyond the skies.

In January 1952 I toured the Holy Land. My visit at the LORD'S TOMB inspired this POEM.

Brother Paul R. Myers

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Acceptable Work Ethics for Christians

We have always heard that the most important thing in life is "how we play the game." This platitude stresses the importance of attitude. Attitude means everything relative to pleasing God with our work habits. Of all people, we are the ones who should be committed to our work one hundred percent.

We should be the ones who are first on the job and possibly the last ones to quit. We should give everything we have to perform up to the expectation of our employers. That is God's will for us as His followers.

Jesus didn't give just a part of His life on the Cross of Calvary. He was fully prepared to give whatever was necessary to finish His task. Where did He muster up the strength in such an impossible situation? It was from God... by prayer! He was in constant communication with the Father and God strengthened Him each step of the way. This is how we will be able to give more of ourselves than others around us. The supernatural strength will come from Above.

Now we make this bold statement of commitment to a godly work ethic in the face of an attitude that exists today that would be totally in contrast to this thinking. We live in America... America, the wonder of the world economically. We live in the midst of great factories, fields brimming with grain and massive resources of limitless energy. All this has been available for most of our lives.

But wait! The factories no longer seem to be booming in their production. Many are closing and people are losing their jobs. America seems to be falling behind the Japanese in many world markets. Our life is not as easy as it used to be and we are actually seeing a decline in our standard of living. Why? Why is America lagging behind countries that seem to be far less significant? The answer is found partly in our poor work ethic.

Look back into the beginning of God's Word and He commanded Adam to work. He was not to be lazy. You say, "he was in the Garden of Eden, the paradise of God, and had to work?" Yes, God... and Christianity have always taught that work is to be done in such a way that it will glorify the Creator. It was basic to the settling and growth of our nation. It was the factor that made America grow to the great economic power she is. Yet in our day and for the past twenty years or so, this ethic has been discounted as unimportant and archaic. The cultural revolution of the sixties destroyed this ethic. Combine that with a lack of Christian commitment and we see the disastrous results.

When you remove the Christian influence from any discipline, you see tragedy. This has happened in public education, in government and in aid to the needy. The war on poverty is a farce without Jesus Christ. It is only a battle to be lost. Low achievement is another result of this unbelieving society and we see this reflected in the work ethic.

Could it be that the greatest tragedy of all is the moral decay that has resulted from our lack of moral character, that comes only from a belief in God and in following His ways? Honesty outside of Biblical principle is non-existent. There is no honor outside of the realm and context of the disciplines of the Scripture.

As I travel around a five state area in my work, it is easy to observe the decline in godly attitudes... even in the church furniture business. The problem seems overwhelming. But, even this problem is well within the parameter of God's control. There can be a change... and this change will begin only with God's people. We must first clean up our work ethics and our attitudes before this positive reform can take place. The whole problem is a spiritual one. Our values must be improved if we are to have an effective impact on our world for Jesus Christ. The only acceptable work ethic is one based on God's principle of self sacrifice and giving fully of one's self.

Brother Len Wertz

FIVE WORDS TO GUIDE OUR LIVES

Looking, Listening, Learning, Loving and Living

Listening

I Kings 19:12, "And after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was

not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice." Please read verses 1-18.

Isaiah 30:21, "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left."

Deuteronomy 4:10, "Specially the day that thou stoodest before the Lord thy God in Horeb, when the Lord said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children." Please read verses 5-13.

Deuteronomy 6:4, "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord:." Please read verses 1-12.

Deuteronomy 4:33, "Did ever people hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as thou hast heard, and live?" Please read verses 30-36.

Deuteronomy 12:28, "Observe and hear all these words which I command thee, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee for ever, when thou doest that which is good and right in the sight of the Lord thy God."

Deuteronomy 18:15, "The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken:." Please read verses 15-19.

I Samuel 3:10, "And the Lord came, and stood, and called me at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth." Please read verses 1-10.

I Samuel 15:22, "And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams." Please read verses 1-31.

II Chronicles 20:20, "And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper." Please read verses 1-30.

Nehemiah 8:2, "And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month." Please read verses 1-8.

Psalms 51:8, "Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice."

Psalms 66:16, "Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul." Please read verses 16-20.

Psalms 81:8, "Hear, O my people, and I will testify unto thee: O Israel, if thou wilt hearken unto me;" Please read verses 7-16.

Psalms 85:8, "I will hear what God the Lord will speak; for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints; but let them not turn again to folly." Please read verses 1-13.

Psalms 143:8, "Cause me to hear thy loving kindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee." Please read verses 1-12.

Proverbs 8:34, "Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors." Please read verses 32-26.

Ecclesiastes 5:1, "Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil." Please read verse 2.

Isaiah 29:18, "And in that day shall the deaf hear the words of the book, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity, and out of darkness."

Isaiah 32:3, "And the eyes of them that see shall not be dim, and the ears of them that hear shall hearken." Please read verses 1-4.

Isaiah 48:18, "O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea." Please read verses 1-22.

Isaiah 55:3, "Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David." Please read verses 1-7.

Isaiah 66:5, "Hear the word of the Lord, ye that tremble at his word; Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the Lord be glorified: but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed." Please read verses 1-5.

Jeremiah 25:4, "And the Lord hath sent unto you all his servants the prophets, rising early and sending them; but ye have not hearkened, nor inclined your ear to hear." Please read verses 3-11.

Ezekiel 2:8, "But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house: open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee." Please read verses 1-10.

Ezekiel 3:10, "Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, all my words that I shall speak unto thee receive in thine heart, and hear with thine ears." Please read verses 1-27.

Ezekiel 33:32, "And, lo, thou art unto them as a very lovely song of one that hath a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument: for they hear thy words, but they do them not." Please read verses 30-33.

Ezekiel 34:9, "Therefore, O ye shepherds, hear the word of the Lord." Please read verses 1-31, especially ministers and elders.

Ezekiel 37:4, "Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord." Please read verses 1-14.

Ezekiel 40:4, "And the man said unto me, Son of man, behold with thine eyes, and hear with thine ears, and set thine heart upon all that I shall shew thee; for to the intent that I might shew them unto thee art thou brought hither: declare all that thou seest to the house of Israel."

Hosea 4:1, "Hear the word of the Lord, ye children of Israel: for the Lord hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land." Please read verses 1-11.

Amos 8:11, "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but a hearing of words of the Lord." Please read verses 1-14.

Zechariah 3:8, "Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH." Please read verses 1-10.

Zechariah 7:13, "Therefore it is come to pass, that as he cried, and they would not hear; so they cried, and I would not hear, saith the Lord of hosts." Please read verses 1-14, also Isaiah 58:1-14.

Malachi 2:1-2, "And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you. If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the Lord of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings: yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart." Please read verses 1-10.

To be continued
God bless you all.
Brother William Carpenter
8012 Cavender St.
Morenci, Michigan 49256

OUR FATHER WHICH ART IN HEAVEN

Matthew 6:9, "After this manner therefore pray ye; Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name."

This subject, perhaps, has been the basis for more writings than any other subject within Holy Scriptures. We do not feel we have anything to add nor any special insight to what has already been written. The very fact that we, as Brethren, use this thought so frequently speaks to us of the danger of taking it for granted. We have long been of the opinion that familiar subjects and scriptures are often gone over far too lightly or neglected in place of something more sensational or provocative.

First of all, the Scriptures speak of God as our Father. Ephesians 5:6, "One God, and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." It is very important to remember that the "our" and the "all" refers to those who are a part of "One Lord, one faith, one baptism." This can raise some serious questions as to who is a son or daughter of God, who can legitimately call God their Father. We personally feel that we are not called to judge the salvation of others. However, One Lord means that we must accept the Holy Trinity. To deny that God the Father is male, though He does not possess a human body, is to deny the Holy Trinity. To even suggest that Jesus Christ may have been a woman is blasphemous disregard for Holy Scripture. One faith is much more difficult to describe within this context. However, we do not believe we are wrong to preach and teach a need to follow Scripture in the method often described as the plain way of life. One baptism is perhaps even a more difficult subject. Yet, without being judgemental, we feel we should not be ashamed to uphold trine immersion baptism as the Scriptural mode. In an attempt to be broadminded in relation to who can call God, Father, the validity of Holy Scripture has been undermined and liberal theology has been exalted. We are far better off being "narrow minded" and holding fast to our Brethren understanding of Scripture!

God is our Father which art in Heaven. While He has sent the Holy Spirit, who is also God, to live within believers, He is never to be looked upon as an "earth dweller." The fact that He dwells in Heaven speaks of being higher than man. Many so called "gospel songs" would drag our Heavenly Father down to our level. Phrases such as "the man upstairs" should never be heard from our lips. Liberal theology attempts to tell a high and holy God that His Word is not true. God the Father, the Creator of all mankind, has His glory stolen away by the propagation of the teaching of evolution.

Yes, Hallowed be thy name. In most Brethren gatherings a vocal "Praise the Lord" would seem strange and perhaps even out of order. We are not advocating becoming more emotional in our worship services. However, our services should be a praise to the Lord. His name should be hallowed in our songs and sermons. We, personally, believe a vocal "Praise the Lord" is more acceptable to God than tearing one another up with words or using the pulpit to degrade our historical Brethren beliefs.

The fact that God is our Father as believers should be a comfort to us. Although not all earthly fathers deserve that title, our Heavenly Father is the perfect Father in every way. He will supply our every need. This does not mean that we will never have a want. According to Jesus Christ, Lazarus was a beggar who went to Heaven, while the rich man ended up in Hell. He will be with us in

times of temptation and trouble. His strong hand will uphold us in times of sorrow. He is a God of miracles and, according to His Divine Will, He is able to heal every sickness or injury.

God, as our father, not only goes with us every step of the way while here on earth but has prepared something far better for us in eternal Glory. One hymn writer puts it this way.

"The Father in eternal love,
His heart upon Zion did set;
Her name he enrolled above;
Nor will he fair Zion forget,
He chose her in Jesus his Son,
And gave her to him for a wife;
Who freely accepted the same,
Though knowing she'd cost him his life."

If we truly love our earthly father we will lovingly obey what He tells us to do. (We, again, recognize that some fathers give unsafe advice and direction.) Why are we so reluctant to obey our Heavenly Father? Why do our hearts so often desire the things of the world in place of what our Heavenly Father has given unto the Church?

Have you accepted the greatest gift of all from our Heavenly Father? Are you able to call yourself a son or daughter of His? If not be washed in the blood of Jesus Christ and baptized. God wants to be your Heavenly Father. Will we all be obedient sons and daughters of His?

Brother James M. Hite
816 E. Birch St.
Palmyra, PA 17078

SIXTY YEARS AGO

April 1, 1932

WATCHFULNESS

Harry E. Andrews

"Watch, therefore, for ye know not in what hour your Lord doth come." (Matt. 24:42.)

If there ever was a time when the Christian believer should be watchful, it is in this present time. On every hand sin is running rampant, satan is having sin placed before us in every conceivable disguise. Anything just to keep us away from God, away from truth and right.

In I Peter 5:8 we have these words: "Be sober, be vigilant; for your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion walketh about seeking whom

he may devour." What more warning do we need to put us on our guard against satan and his devious ways?

Again some are taken unawares. Jesus cites us to one instance of this in Matt. 24:43: "But know this, that if the good man of the house had known in what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken into." If we knew just in what hour and minute sin would overtake us, it would be no hard matter for us to overcome it, but we don't, so it takes us in hand to be watchful. "Therefore, be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not, the son of man cometh." (Matt. 24:44.)

This scripture should be of great concern to every Christian, in fact, it should be uppermost in our mind and thoughts. Let us just stop and think what it would mean to us if we weren't ready and prepared when our Lord and Savior comes to take his own to him in glory. It would deprive us of life eternal with him who created us, him who has shown great mercy and has been kind and long-suffering toward us. We would be cast into that place where we would be tormented day and night with fire unquenchable, and not be able to share the joy and peace that is possible with our Lord and Savior and all the saints. May we look well to the way of our going.

It should be a prayerful watch. Paul, in II Thess. 5:17 tells us: "To pray without ceasing." Again, in Eph. 6:18, "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perserverance and supplication for all saints." We need to pray more, using every bit of our energy to be faithful unto our God that we will not be found wanting when the time comes for us to lay down this mortality and to put on immortality. For we have in I Cor. 16:13 these words of Paul: "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong." It behooves us, then, as Christian believers, to watch, to stand fast in the faith once delivered to the saints, to be faithful unto death. So that we can claim those blessed promises that God has promised to those who remain faithful to him and his word.

Again we say: "Watch, therefore, for ye know not in what hour your Lord doth come."

DOUBLE HONOR

I Timothy 5:17, "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine."

Nehemiah 8:3, "And he (Ezra) read therein before the street that was before the water gate from the morning until midday, before

the men and the women, and those that could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law."

To best understand the point we are trying to make it is necessary to read all of I Timothy 5 and Nehemiah 8. In Nehemiah we find the presentation of the law to the people of Israel. We should pay careful attention to how they received it, and how precious it was to them. Today, to believe in Jesus, a heart change is necessary. But to live the Christian life requires a great deal of head change also. We must constantly be refreshing ourselves at the fountain of God's Word. The people of Israel in the time of Nehemiah were SO interested in God's message to them that they STOOD for many hours, ALL OF THEM attentive to God's Word. We are glad we can go to the scriptures and learn from them. Seeing the Israelites' desire for God's Word and knowing that they were unregenerated souls, how much the more should we, who claim to have hearts made clean by the blood of the lamb, be attentive to God's Word.

Those who minister unto us from God's Word deserve not only our attention, but we should extend honor to them by putting into practice what we hear. Today there is very little respect extended to the servants of God. The meeting oftentimes is so noisy when the brethren rise to speak that even those with a desire to hear cannot. Gone are the days when a hunger for God's Word caused people to stand (or sit) in enraptured silence for hours on end. Today, many are the "clock watchers": afraid their noon meal preparation will be ruined if they stay over a minute or two extra. There are others of dubious nature, including "whisperers", who cannot wait until service is over to express their opinions. There are "sleepers", who do not get enough rest through the week and so must make up for it on a Sunday morning. There are also others too numerous to mention.

Our worship would be a foretaste of heaven. In Luke 24:49 it says, "And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Do not be afraid to tarry for a needy brother or sister. The Lord will indeed bless you. Do not be afraid to tarry until the meeting is over, and after the meeting. Pay your ministers, and your fellow worshippers, the respect they are due. Come to the meeting with a heart prepared to sing, pray, learn, and most of all, to worship.

Brother Lynn H. Miller
RD 2 Box 561
Newmanstown, PA 17073

WRONG IS ALWAYS WRONG

In a period of loose and sagging morals, Satan provides many rationalizations for improper behavior. Those who would live faithful Christian lives must NOT be ignorant of his devices. (II Cor. 2:11) Wrong is always wrong despite our efforts to excuse our actions... **WRONG IS WRONG, EVEN IF...** You don't get caught? Let us remember "the eyes of the Lord are in every place beholding the evil and the good." (Prov. 15:3, Heb. 4:13)... **WRONG IS WRONG, EVEN IF...** You do it for a good cause! The honorable purpose does not justify a dishonorable deed or action. The end never justifies the means. "All sin is transgression of the law." (I John 3:4) ... **WRONG IS WRONG, EVEN IF...** Others are doing worse things! To the lost in the day of judgment, it will be little comfort to know others committed worse sins. "The thought of foolishness is sin." (Prov. 24:9) ... **WRONG IS WRONG, EVEN IF...** It doesn't bother the conscience! The conscience can be trained or educated to accept wrongdoing. Even an honest sin or an evil done in sincerity is sinful in the sight of the Holy God. "... Whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap." (Gal. 6:7) ... **WRONG IS WRONG, EVEN IF...** It is commonly considered acceptable! The Bible says, "Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil." (Ex. 23:2). The Christian should "enter not into the path of the wicked, and not go in the way of evil men. Avoid it, turn from it and pass by." (Prov. 4:15). "Prove all things and hold fast to that which is good. Abstain from all appearance (form) of evil." (I Thess. 5:21-22).

REMEMBER, THERE IS NEVER A RIGHT WAY TO DO WRONG!

Selected by Sister Juanita Reed

NEWS ITEMS

NOTICE

All reports from the various boards and any queries for General Conference must be in my hands by April 20, 1992 to be printed in the business sheets.

Bro. William Carpenter,
Writing Clerk
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Morenci, MI 49256
(517) 458-6535

PLEVNA, INDIANA

The Plevna Congregation plans a week revival April 19 to 26. Bro. Mark Andrews of Grandview, Missouri will be the Evangelist.

Our Lovefeast will be at 7 p.m. on April 25. Other evening's services at 7:30 p.m.

You are invited to these meetings!

Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.

PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA

We look forward to our Spring Lovefeast on Easter weekend, April 18 and 19, 1992. At that time, the Pleasant Home Congregation will also host the Fourth District Conference.

Sister Edith Moss, Cor.

McCLAVE, COLORADO

The McClave Congregation plans to have their Spring Lovefeast the weekend of April 25-26, 1992. The Lovefeast will be held on the evening of the 25th.

We invite all who can attend to be with us at this time.

WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, the Waynesboro Congregation will hold our Lovefeast on May 3, 1992. We appreciate all who have supported us in the past and again extend a hearty invitation to each to come and worship with us.

Bro. Frank E. Shaffer has been installed into the ministry and Bro. Paul Eberly installed as a deacon.

We're also thankful for the two Sisters who have been received into the Church.

Remember us in prayer as we strive to do the Lord's will.

Sister Janet Shaffer, Cor.



Crates threw his gold into the sea, saying, "I will destroy thee lest thou destroy me!" If men do not put the love of the world to death, love of the world will destroy them.

Mr. Locke, before his death, declared: "This life is a scene of vanity that soon passes away, and affords no solid satisfaction but in the consciousness of doing well and in the hopes of another life."

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXX

APRIL 15, 1992

NO. 7

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

"I AM WITH YOU"

"Lo," He says, "I am with you
Always, unto the end."

Oh, how comforting His words
As your life "makes a bend."

The bend that leads to the bridge
That spans the chasm wide,
And leads to that glorious home
That's on the "other side."

There is no pain or sadness,
No crying and no night,
There we'll meet our Redeemer,
The Lamb, who is the Light.

'Tis pleasant to look forward
To a mansion above
That Christ has gone to prepare
For those filled with His love.

Sister Irene Stout
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Wabash, IN 46992

A REMINDER

We receive reminders from many different people. They may come from magazine publishers wanting us to renew our subscription. The government reminds that we need to renew our driver's licenses or to pay our taxes. We are reminded of payments due, so we are not late paying our bills.

We need our memories jogged many times. It seems we just cannot remember all that we are supposed to. Either we get our minds overloaded or we are inattentive, so we do not remember as we should. Our forgetfulness can be rather embarrassing some times. We forget other people's names, although we should know them as well as our own. We forget important dates. We might miss meetings we had intended to go to, because we forgot that date or forgot to look at the note we had earlier written, so we wouldn't miss it. We may get lost because we forget how to get around in areas we have not been in for awhile. There are so many ways that a faulty memory can affect our daily lives.

Since God has created us and knows all about us, He understands our need for reminders. The Christian is the recipient of many reminders from God. The Bible serves as a physical reminder of what He would have us know and do. By reading the Bible, we are reminded of what He has done for us and what He has in store for us in the future.

Not only do we have His Word but also His Spirit. Jesus, just before the finish of His earthly ministry, told His followers that after His ascension, the Holy Spirit would be available to bring to their memories the things that He had said and what He had

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done. The Spirit speaks of Jesus and His work, not about Himself. He brings to our memories information about what has been done for us through the gift of God's Son. The memory of that great price being paid should encourage us to live as those who have been bought by that highest possible price.

It is not only through words and thoughts that these reminders are given, but there are activities that also serve as reminders. The various ordinances serve as reminders of great truths God would have us remember. By participating in these activities, we are doubly involved, so a greater impression will be made upon us. We not only read or hear about beliefs and attitudes that we should assimilate, but we take an active part in a physical deed that helps fix that teaching in our minds. The more of our senses that are involved in an activity the better chance we have of retaining the desired teaching. For example, we can hear of humility and service as noble characteristics that should be a part of our lives, but without a physical demonstration, they may remain just that – noble characteristics. Feet washing teach these desirable traits by active participation. We are taught to humble ourselves and kneel to serve our fellow Christian, whatever his station in life may be. Reminders like this are very effective in helping us to translate our beliefs into demonstrative service.

Perhaps the reminders that come to us most often are those we receive at regular worship services. We can read and study the Bible by ourselves at home and profit from it greatly. However, we need to hear the Word explained by teachers and ministers. That way we get not only our own impressions but those of others, which can give us greater insight into what God is trying to teach us. It is a well proven truth that more is accomplished by several working together than can be by that many individuals working individually. The study of God's Word can be more profitable when several contribute what they have garnered through their study. This is one of the benefits of Brotherhood and fellowship. The give and take of such study profits all who participate.

We need the proclaiming of God's Word by the ministry to remind us of the teachings of the Bible and of our duties of Christian service and living. We need to not only know the Word, but we must be reminded to live the Word. Preaching is often considered foolishness by many, but God has designed it as the vital message delivery system of the Church. By the foolishness of preaching, souls are converted, lives are made worthwhile and directed into pathways pleasing to God.

Fellowship is a reminder of God's love shown through His children, one to another. It is also a reminder that we are not traveling this way alone. There are others who are also meeting the same troubles and trials that we are.

How many reminders does God need to send your way? Will you profit by all these reminders sent to jog your memory? May your memory be well served by what you know, read, hear and do. God intends these reminders to make you a better Christian. Is your memory working like it should, since God has sent it so many reminders?

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

MOTIVES

God is interested in our motives because they come from the very base of our being. Not only what we do can condemn us but what we think. Our reasons for doing what we do can condemn... our bless us. It is the motive that makes something right or wrong.

Most of the wrong things in our lives are right things that are misused. For instance, it is good to eat but excessive eating is gluttony... and gluttony is sin. It is not so much what we want to do but why we want to do it that really counts to God. This is a foundation on which every action is built.

We are basically led in two ways: by trust or by force. We either live by rules which are based on hope or fear or we live by love which is trusting in the one that leads us. Trust and love are foundational for harmony in the Church or in our relationships with other people. Without love and trust, we have only fear to rule us... and that is the way of the world.

A true Christian is not one who has a selfish heart. This kind of person still lives by threats and bargains. He acts on bribes or in avoidance of punishment. This person wants to know "what is in it for him" before he chooses.

We may all seem similar outwardly but there are some radical differences in us regarding our motives. A right life is founded on God's way of love. The wrong way is selfish and is built on the sand. The Bible illustrates this in the example of serving willingly and serving only with the mouth but, in reality, not following through in commitment.

One child might obey his dad because he trusts him. He has faith in his Dad that works by love. The other is self-centered. He wants all that he can get from his Dad so he does what he has to

do. He obeys only under force what he really doesn't want to do it at all. He doesn't care about his Dad's happiness. This can be related to our service to God. A true child of God has confidence and trust in the Lord that leads him to fully give himself to His Will. The phony Christian has only a partial submission and this is practiced with a selfish heart. He wants to be saved for his own safety but isn't interested in giving his heart to be fully ruled by the Lord. He is outward and plastic. He sees a religion of law. He is wholly unlike Jesus.

How about you? Are you making a full, unreserved surrender to the Lord and trusting Him to lead you to a life of joy and fulfillment? There are some tests for right motives that we would like to share to allow you to determine the answer to this question. These are warning lights that will glow in the darkness of your conscience. They will allow you to check it out against the standard of God's Word.

1. Is your motive for service to "puff" you up in the eyes of others? Will what you are doing make you feel superior to others? Are you a name dropper? These are wrong motives for action.

2. Are your actions basically for your own gain? Do your actions feed a bad habit or your body or mind? Are you just doing your own thing? These are wrong motives for action.

3. Do you resent other Christians for what they are trying to achieve for the cause of the kingdom because you didn't originate the action? Are you afraid of being left out or being shelved? Are you envious of others? These are wrong motives for action.

God's love is the only life style that will give you right motives. Your full desire should be to please Him... no matter what the action is. To be interested in the highest good and choose to surrender everything is the true mark of having the right motive for Christian living.

The following questions will help you to make right choices. They will allow you to be your best in the service of the Lord.

First of all, ask yourself, **WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?** Would Jesus say that? Would He take part in that activity? Would He walk with us through that situation?

Secondly, **IS IT TRUE, KIND AND NECESSARY?** We are admonished in the Word to speak those things that are true, season them with grace and say them in love.

3. **WILL IT LIFT US UP OR WEIGH US DOWN?** Of course, our choice should be to covet the best gifts, to redeem the time... to lay aside the weights of sin and run with patience.

4. DOES IT HONOR THE LORD? Will the action bring glory to the name of God? Will it make others think more about Him than you? God says, "Them that honor Me, I will honor." I Sam. 2:30.

5. WILL IT CAUSE SOMEONE ELSE TO STUMBLE? Will someone who is weaker be hindered in their Christian life by seeing what you do, hearing what you say? Will your action be misunderstood by others who are looking to you as an example?

6. CAN YOU PRAY ABOUT IT WITH AN UNTROUBLED MIND? Can you commit it wholly into the Lord's hands? You need to be free to share your motives with God and allow Him to participate in them.

7. Finally, can you praise God in it? If it is doubtful, don't do it or say it! Don't compromise with doubtful decisions. God will honor your sacrifices made for Him. **LET LOVE BE YOUR GUIDE.** Let everything you do be an example of Jesus. Get rid of pride, self, lust, hate, fear and envy. Put on Jesus Christ and live in His fullness.

Bro. Len Wertz

PERSUASIONS AND PERSONALITIES

Psalms 12

One of the dictionary definitions of "persuasion" is "a particular religious belief." One of the definitions for "personality" is "individuality." From time to time there has been, and we believe wrongly so, attacks against our Pietistic heritage from both without and within the Brethren faith. The charge is that Pietism encourages individuality. It is true that the original Pietistic movement taught individualism. They were opposed to any type of church structure. However, Alexander Mack and the original Brethren obviously rejected this part of the Pietistic teaching but retained the need of an individual relationship with God. We see Psalm 12 as speaking not only to a persuasion but a need for this persuasion to become a part of our personality.

"Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men." We cry with the Psalmist, "Help, LORD." We send this cry up both for ourselves and for the Church. As an individual, I feel my failures to live a godly life in the midst of trials and temptations among the children of men. We see the Church that we love following trends that have caused others to fail.

"The speak vanity every one with his neighbor: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak." We observe situ-

ations where one brother speaks to another brother with vanity. The definition of which is, "being vain, or excessively proud of oneself." Are any of us free from this problem? Do not most of us believe that OUR ideas are best for the group? Are we guilty of speaking with flattering lips and with a double heart? Do we tell a brother or sister how much we love them by extending a handshake and kiss of charity while our heart holds distrust and unresolved conflicts?

"The LORD shall cut of all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things: Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us?" We will answer to the Lord for flattering lips and the tongue that speaketh proud things. In our attitude one that says, "With our tongue will we prevail?" Do we say "our lips are our own?" Or do we recognize the truth of I Corinthians 6:20? "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." Does our words and actions says, "Who is lord over us?" Do we recognize the right of the church to set down rules and regulations for our lives? Are we willing to submit to the decisions of Annual Conference? Is it our desire to hold fast to the practices and teachings that listed us among the faithful? Or does our tongue and heart express our pride that makes us desire to be like the "children of men" rather than the sons and daughters of God? Our plain attire will not be a ticket to Heaven and it may not keep anyone out of Heaven if they refuse to wear it, but it cannot be denied that it is a symbol recognized by the majority within the world that we are the sons and daughters of God. This is not to say that everyone who dresses plain is guaranteed a home in Heaven.

"For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the LORD; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him." It is true that we can become "so heavenly minded that we are of no earthly good." Are we so concerned about our own greed, which we define as need, that we forget about the needs of others? Unfortunately, we are often so caught up with "spiritual matters" that we forget that some have physical needs. Perhaps even more sad is the fact that we are often so concerned about preserving the faith that we do not reach out to others to share our faith. We believe that Matthew 25 has both a spiritual and a natural application. We must reach out to the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, the stranger, the sick and those in prison.

"The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever."

We may not like what the Word of God has to say but we cannot change it! Churches may set up their own rules and regulations. They may determine by majority rule that some things are no longer needful. But God's words are pure words. They are preserved from this generation for ever. Our persuasions and personalities cannot change them.

"The wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted." To be popular you preach and teach what the human heart desires to hear. The wicked walk on every side, calling themselves children of God, because the vilest men are exalted. Good people are ignorant of the vile teachings that fill our land. They uphold those who have a pleasing personality, who hold persuasions that are contrary to the Word of God. May God help us not to be judgmental nor boasters but to humbly hold fast to the Word of God.

Brother James M. Hite
816 E. Birch St.
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FIVE WORDS TO GUIDE OUR LIVES

LOOKING, LISTENING, LEARNING, LOVING AND LIVING

LISTENING

(continued)

Matthew 7:24, "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock." Please read verses 13-29 and Luke 6:46-49.

Matthew 11:15, "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear." There are scores of exhortations similar to this from Prov. 23:12 to Rev. 13:9.

Matthew 13:15, "For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them." Please read verses 1-23.

Matthew 17:5, "While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." Please read verses 1-8, Mark 9:2-10 and Luke 9:28-36.

Mark 8:18, "Having eyes, see ye not? and having ears, hear ye not? and do ye not remember?" Please read verses 13-21.

Mark 12:29, "And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord." Please read verses 28-34.

Luke 6:27, "But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you." Please read verses 20-36.

Luke 8:21, "And he answered and said unto them, My mother and my brethren are these which hear the word of God, and do it."

Luke 10:16, "He that heareth you heareth me; and he that despiseth you despiseth me; and he that despiseth me despiseth him that sent me." Ministers and teachers beware, as this applies only to the true ministers of God.

Luke 11:28, "But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it."

Luke 15:1, "Then drew near unto him all the publicans and sinners for the hear him." Please read verses 1-7.

Luke 16:29, "Abraham saith unto him, "They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them." Please read verses 19-31.

John 5:24-25, "Verily, Verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live." Please read verses 19-32.

John 8:47, "He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God." Please read verses 42-51.

John 10:27, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." Please read verses 1-30.

John 12:47, "And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world." Please read verses 44-50.

John 14:24, "He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me."

John 18:37, "Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice."

Acts 10:33, "Immediately therefore I sent to thee; and thou hast well done that thou art come. Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God." Please read verses 1-33.

Acts 22:14, "And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth," Please read verses 3-21.

Acts 28:28, "Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it." Please read verses 22-29.

Romans 2:13, "(For not the hearers of the law are just before God; but the doers of the law shall be justified." Please read James 1:19-27.

Romans 10:17, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Please read verses 1-21.

Galatians 3:2, "This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?" Please read verses 1-9.

I Timothy 4:16, "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them; for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee." Please read verses 12-16.

II Timothy 4:17, "Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion." Please read verses 1-18.

Hebrews 3:15, "While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation." Please read verses 6-19 and Psalms 95:1-11.

Hebrews 5:11, "Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing." Please read verses 5-14.

I John 4:6, "We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error." Please read verses 1-6.

Revelation 1:3, "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand." Please read verses 1-8.

Revelation 22:17, "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Please read verses 12-21.

God bless you all.
Brother William Carpenter
8012 Cavender St.
Morenci, MI 49256

SIXTY YEARS AGO

April 15, 1932

TEACH US TO PRAY

J. J. Reppert

One day while the Master was praying, one of His disciples was so impressed that when He concluded His prayer the disciple requested of Him to teach them to pray. For some reason, not stated, the request infers that they had heard John's disciples pray; also, that the Master prayed differently from what John's disciples did, and evidently noticed that His prayers differed from those of David, Solomon, Daniel and the rest of the Old Testament characters, both in word and effect; also different in nature.

Hence the request, "Teach us to pray." The Master might have, in a fatherly way, questioned their motive, or He might have referred them to some of the Old Testament prayers; He did not, but without question or any further explanation, said "After this manner pray ye: Our Father..." These words express a new relation, which was not expressed before. This relationship is created by the new birth, as stated in John 3:3-5, to give admittance into the kingdom. The change is from God, and His servants, friends and chosen people, Abraham's seed, and their requests were recognized upon a covenant relationship. Now it is child asking the father, the closest relationship one can experience. "Which art in Heaven" also indicates change of abode, where the Father resides. There the children enjoy the blessings of home and family fellowship. It also indicates that no longer do they as earthly people ask of their God in heaven to grant them earthly blessings in the peril of earthly dangers; but now ask a Father for spiritual blessings and are in physical danger as indicated in Eph. 6:12, also Matt. 10:28. "Hallowed be Thy name." The children regard their father as the best of all. They like to talk about His goodness and to display His greatness, and urge that He be revered above all others, and resent when another is boasted of as being greater or His equal. "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Whatever the Father is trying to accomplish the children are interested in and strive to have it the Father's way. They trust in the Father's judgment, knowing that the Father's pleasure is for their blessing and means happiness and peace. It also indicates a change of abode. That the earth is to be restored to its primitive state and is to be enjoyed as it was created for man. However, this is noticeable that sometimes in a childlike manner the Father's methods are not used, but human wisdom and human judgment are used and a blunder is the result.

But the Father is kind, loving and long-suffering; He offers His corrections, He exercises patience and grants grace and waits for the work to be accomplished.

"Give us our daily bread." He provides for our physical needs; He gives a fuller explanation on this provision and request in Matt. 6:25-34. He has made ample provisions for all of His creation and regards man as the highest of this order. We should refrain from anxious concern about these provisions. We shall notice a little later on how He dispenses His provisions. "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us." Here forgiveness is taught and is based on the law of reciprocation. It also limits our intimacy with the Father. The spirit of forgiveness measures our freedom and innocence in His presence. Christ forgave us all our transgressions, so we should express our appreciation for this generous act by doing likewise and forgive all.

"Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

This serves as a reminder that the heart of man is evil and being constantly in company or at least get in daily contact with evil influence, we should ever ask the Father to throw or place a safeguard around us so that none of these influences should overcome us.

In our endeavor to steer clear of these evils, point out to us the safe way.

We should be conscience of the fact that there are evils with us we are not aware of, so implore Divine aid to remove them from us.

"For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory."

His children will not ask for permission to change His kingdom, neither in form nor its subjects; will not seek to have another to reign therein, will not employ any other powers to enforce the government of this kingdom. We shall not resort to legislation and then armament of warfare to maintain the order and laws which are practiced in this kingdom, but we want the Father and His family to be exalted and receive all the credit and not earthly organizations or the powers of this world which comes from the prince of this world and of darkness. The laws of this kingdom are few and simple. Love is the greatest; its virtues are patience and longsuffering. Its power is the Word and the Spirit. Recognizing this fact grants us the highest privileges that we can enjoy while sojourning here, that of prayer.

POISONING YOUR NEIGHBOR

Habakkuk 2:15, "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness!"

II Peter 3:11, "Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness."

When we moved to Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, back in 1976, the real estate man told us, "You'll like it here. Everyone minds their own business." It did not take us long to realize how untrue this statement was. Not only did our neighbors mind their business, but they minded ours and everyone else's. The scripture tells us we are living epistles, known and read of all men. We are His witnesses. Our neighbors see us on a daily basis. They know our actions and our dispositions. If we fall, they know it before our brethren do. Woe unto us if we, by our actions, cause our neighbor to stumble or fall!

In Habakkuk it refers to giving your neighbor alcoholic drink. But it is just as bad to wrongly influence your neighbor, to yield to sin so that he sees you. Whether we care to admit it or not, the world thinks of the Christian as above reproach, but they are always happy to see us fall so they can say that we are no better

than they. The scriptures pronounce woe upon the man that causes his neighbor to fall.

It is our responsibility to see to it that we warn our neighbors of the lateness of the hour. God tells us that this world and its contents will melt with fervent heat. That house of yours is going up in smoke one day. That beautiful car will become a puddle of molten metal and rubber. Even the deeds that we do on a daily basis will be devoured. We can poison our neighbors by engaging in the same ungodly rat race they are in, or by our actions we can warn them. Not only must our lives be above reproach, but we must verbally warn them. It is not a hard thing to do when the love of Jesus is shed abroad in our hearts.

Brother Lynn H. Miller
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GEMS FOR THOUGHT

1. Many people shun Christians because Christ is their background and they hate Christians who have too much of Him.
2. I would rather be a martyr than a monarch.
3. The secret of greatness is to be little.
4. Lest your blessings ravel out, hem them with praise.
5. When God wants to bring more power into your life, He brings more pressure.
6. Every word of God contains in it the power of its own fulfillment.
7. What a joy to live on the brink of Eternity.
8. No one goes to Heaven whose heart is not already there.
9. Are the things you are living for worth Christ's dying for?
10. God's way up is down.
11. He always wins who sides with God.
12. To live a Spiritual life means subordinating all other interests to that single fact.
13. The devil could not trip our soul, if Christ had complete control.
14. Our faith is growing dim if our minds are on the temporal, not wholly stayed on HIM.
15. Our power in the world depends on our vision of the other world.
16. Faith makes a man understand and believe things incredible to sense and reason.
17. Nothing makes the other world so real as the renunciation of this one.
18. Overwhelmed by his vision of another world, a Christian martyr exclaimed, "So much wages for so little work."
19. The rest of faith is our rest in God and God's rest in us.
20. There is to be seen many full altars but few transformed lives.

21. No man at the same time, can call attention to himself and Christ.
22. No one had ever heard anything about the resolutions of the Apostles, but we have heard a great deal about the acts of the Apostles.
23. From an unknown source, "Lord grant that the heat of my heart may melt the lead on my feet."
24. The world has many religions, but only one Gospel.

Compiled by Brother Paul R. Myers
5005 Higbee Ave., N.W.
Canton, Ohio 44718

"A MISSIONARY'S PRAYER"

Lord, I long to be
Just burning for Thee,
In a world sick with sin
And no peace within.

Help me to be
A better servant for Thee,
To go into the night
And show them the True Light,
That You they would receive
If they would only believe.

Bro. Randall J. Reed

NEWS ITEMS

1992 GENERAL CONFERENCE

June 6-10, 1992

Directions to Roxbury Holiness Camp Grounds, located 1/2 mile south of Roxbury, Pennsylvania on Route 997.

Those traveling on Pennsylvania turnpike (I-76) exit number 15, take 997 south to camp grounds.

Those traveling Interstate 81 North or South exit on Scotland Exit, take 997 north to camp grounds.

Those traveling on train or plane go to Harrisburg. Take Greyhound bus service to Shippensburg, Pennsylvania and call camp grounds for transportation.

There is plenty of room for campers and trailers.

Please bring sheets and pillow cases.

When making reservations please state: Date of arrival, approximate time of arrival, number in party, approximate time of departure.

Camp grounds telephone number is (717) 532-2208.

Please send reservations to:

Bro. Paul Noecker, Jr. or
410 Black Horse Road
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

Bro. Verling Wolfe
Rt. 1 Box 1483 B
Bethel, PA 19507

MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new address of Bro. Lloyd Lorenz is 6408 Bluebell Court, Indianapolis, IN 46224.

PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA

"Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and Thy Word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts." This verse from Jeremiah 15:16 has been an inspiration to me this new year.

We are encouraged in a daily Bible reading plan by our Presiding Elder, by the weekly messages from the Lord through our ministering brethren, and by the coming together of Brethren, Sisters and friends at each service. In the changes of life, I think it is SO important to know each other well and learn to love unconditionally. Who of us knows when the privileges of meeting together for worship may be taken away?

We rejoice that some are still being drawn by the Word and the Holy Spirit, and are happy to announce the baptism of Michael Lee. The continuing visits of interested people from the community give us hope and keep us challenged to live the sincere Christian life.

Our Revival Meetings in the Fall were truly revitalizing to the soul, as Brother Len Wertz brought inspiring and challenging messages each night.

Your visits, both past and anticipated, are greatly appreciated. Come when you can and share in our services and fellowship. May we ever be "people of the Word", that souls may be drawn to the only true Salvation.

In Christian love,
Sister Edith Moss, Cor.

DAYTON, VIRGINIA

The Spring Lovefeast of the Dayton Congregation will be held May 16, 1992. We invite all to attend and enjoy this meeting with us.

Sister LaVerne Sowers, Cor.

IN APPRECIATION

To each and every Brother and Sister throughout the Brotherhood, from coast to coast.

We extend our thanks for all the cards and kindness shown at the time of our Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary, February 21, 1992.

May God's blessings be upon each of you for kindness and remembrance at this time.

Elder Harley and Sister Iona Rush

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MAY 1992

May 3 - A Man of God from Judah - I Kings 13:1-34.

1. How did God judge Jeroboam's idolatry and pride?
2. What test did the prophet fail?

May 10 - MOTHER'S DAY - John 2:1-11.

1. What qualities of motherhood do you see in Mary?
2. What is the highest calling of a mother?

May 17 - Rehoboam, King of Judah - I Kings 14:21-31 (I Kings 14:1-20).

1. What kind of king was Rehoboam?
2. What was Israel's spiritual condition during his reign?

May 24 - Abijam, Asa - Baasha, Nadab - I Kings 15:1-34.

1. Why did God keep David's "lamp" burning in Jerusalem?
2. List the strengths and weaknesses of King Asa.

May 31 - Elijah and the Widow - I Kings 17:1-24 (I Kings 16:1-34).

1. What act of faith did Elijah ask of the widow?
2. How did God reward the widow?

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MAY 1992

May 3 - First Miracle at Cana - John 2:1-11.

1. Why did Christ answer His mother as He did in verse 4?
2. What were weddings like in Jesus' day?

May 10 - MOTHERS - Gen. 21:14-20, Ex. 2:1-10, I Kings 3:23-28, John 19:15-27.

1. What qualities do you appreciate in your mother?
2. Have you honored your mother today?

May 17 - Cheerfulness - Pro. 15:9-17, John 17:1-8, 32-33, Acts 27:21-36.

1. Define cheerfulness.
2. What is the basis of our cheer? John 16:33.

May 24 - Fear - Deut. 10:11-14, Ecc. 12:13-14, Matt. 10:22-31, I Pet. 1:13-19.

1. What is the source of fear?
2. What is the remedy for fear?

May 31 - Reality - Gen. 3:1-24, Matt. 3:19, James 4:13-14.

1. What are some of life's realities?
2. Why is it important to ponder the realities of life?

Paul Stump
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Union, OH 45322

(USPS 054-780)

BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXX

MAY 1, 1992

NO. 8

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

EMBROIDER WITH LOVE

I wish that I could "embroider"
In your life a heart of love.
I'd use colors of the rainbow
That arcs in the sky above.

Oh, it would be so beautiful,
Even with trials or tears,
For it takes the rain and sunshine
To "mature" for future years.

After each trial or rainstorm,
You're made much stronger to face
What God has planned ahead for you
Who live by His word of grace.

When my "embroidery" is done,
And true love has had its way,
Then we shall meet up in heaven
To live for an endless day.

Sister Irene Stout
R. 1 Box 160
Wabash, IN 46992

SPECIAL PEOPLE IN OUR LIVES

In each of our lives, there are people who are very special to us. These people, very likely, are relatives. Yet, there are people, who have grown to be special to us, although not related. These people occupy a very honored place in our lives, because they have extended themselves to help us in our journey of life.

When thinking of special people, probably the first to come to mind would be our parents. One father and one mother are all each of us are allotted. There may be unusual circumstances when one or the other is replaced by another person, who may become special in our lives. The two people who conceived and bore a child have united their distinctive features into another person. That gift of life and personality is precious and those who gave it should be considered as being very special. Mothers and fathers make many mistakes while raising their children from babyhood to young adulthood, yet they should be honored as the special people who have made sacrifices for the well being of their children. Some parents make very serious errors in their handling of their children, yet no one else can ever bear quite the same relationship to them as these two special people. It is no accident that God has commanded children, young and old, to pay homage to their parents, through obedience and honor. He has designed parents as His means to continue populating the world. Unfortunately, in too many cases, parents are not appreciated as the special people they are, until after they have passed from this world's scene of action.

Others who become special often are members of the extended family, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. These people

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often have an influence upon children, that can either reinforce or destroy that of the parents. When the influence of the parents has been positive, it is made even more positive when the relatives also promote the same message.

Other special people are the Church officials. Although all should be respected because of their office, some become even more highly respected because of their Christian living and use of their God-given talents. They are often sought out for leadership roles. Their counsel is desired by those facing choices in their lives. They have a positive testimony in the community where they live. It is also God's wisdom in establishing the plural ministry that one official will be considered special by some of the members while another will be special to others. This provides for the needs of all members through the various talents shared with the officials by God. God does not do this to bring jealousy or a party spirit within the official body, but so He can have all His people served.

The officials are not the only ones who can become special people for the Christian. There are many lay members, who because of their faith, prayer-life, piety and friendliness, that become special people. It is often the older members who have had a lifetime of experience and have been able to discern what things are the most important. They are able to discern what should claim their time and efforts. They realize the value of teaching and encouraging those younger in the faith. Their secular pursuits are no longer as important to them as in the past. Often it is the aged women who fill this role not only for the younger women, but also for the children. Children often look forward to the kindness and love displayed by these special people. Their influence can be so great that the younger are encouraged to give their hearts and lives to the Lord as they grow older.

As special as these people can be in our lives, there remains One who should be the most special person in our lives. That One is Jesus Christ. He should not only be as the Son of God, worthy of our deepest reverence and worship, but also the Shepherd who would be our friend and protector. There should be no mortal who would displace Him from that place in our hearts and lives. Without His special care for us, there would be no hope for us. He is not only our Saviour but our gentle and kind friend, who is interested in our Spiritual wellbeing.

As you have benefited from the special people in your life, have you in turn become a special person in someone else's life? Are you willing to be the person another might depend upon in their personal and Spiritual need? It is one thing you can do to further the work of Jesus Christ through your life.

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"An answer to a sin diseased world"

There is a story about an island community that faced extinction because of an unknown disease. This is said to be a true story. The story goes that one of the people on the island came down with a dreaded sickness. Soon the people in the village saw loved one after loved one die. The symptoms of the disease were scant and the cause was unknown. Word of this deadly malady reached the United States and a young doctor heard the story. Against the advice of his colleagues, the doctor moved himself and his family to the island. They settled in and lived there among the natives.

As the islanders contracted the disease, the doctor would rush to each one and give them aid and comfort. But one by one the disease took its toll on the population. One evening as the doctor stood beside the bed of one of the men of the island who had the dreaded disease and watched his life ebb away... he received a message that his own little son was feeling sick. The doctor remained by the side of the man until he died and then gathered up his things and ran to his own house.

When he arrived and took one look at the boy, he recognized the symptoms. They were the symptoms of the dreaded disease plaguing the islanders. As the doctor held his son and watched his life leaving him, he agonized over the cause of this illness. What disease could this be that had come to rob the island of its people and was now taking his son? The little boy had been so full of joy and life and now he was almost gone. The man thought of the food the boy had been eating and the milk he was drinking from the herd of cows there. Just as quickly as death took his little child... he ran out to the cattle. He took some milk and began to analyze it. He found in it the organism that was causing the disease. Through great effort he was able to find a cure and prevent the island people from being totally exterminated.

The word of his great accomplishment preceeded him back to the States and there was great praises for him. They wanted to give him an award and at first he refused but finally they coerced him into accepting the honor. At a banquet... when his time came to speak... he said, "It is not my dedication to medicine, or even my knowledge of medicine that allowed the discovery of the cause of the dreaded disease on the island. It was my son's life that lead to the answer and allowed the people to live." With that he sat down.

This story should remind us of an even greater story of love and sacrifice. God had only one Son and the disease that was

taking the people of the world one by one was sin. There was no cure. But out of His great love, Christ left His Father's home and came to earth. He was to eventually give that life by the shedding of His blood on the cross so that every person might receive the cure... and eternal life. God loved us so much that He sent His own Son to die! It was the death of the Father's only Son that brought a cure for sin to this island in space... the world.

As we are in a new year... and as we consider our goals for the year... we must first ask ourselves... have I received Him? Am I counting on His love and His sure Word for my salvation? Or, am I still holding on to the way of the world? There is only one way to be saved from the disease of sin... that is through the work of Jesus Christ. If you have not accepted Him as your Saviour, do it now. Time is short, life is fragile.

If you have accepted Jesus as your Saviour, 1992 is the time to make Him fully the Lord of your life. Commit yourself to His service and walk in His footsteps.

Brother Len Wertz

WHAT HAS BECOME OF THE SOUND DOCTRINE OF THE BIBLE?

Part One

We read in II Timothy 4:3-4, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."

Webster defines a fable as a LIE or UNTRUTH.

I read and have been told that there are many church people today who do not want their preacher to preach sound DOCTRINE. According to the interpretation of the Bible, if he preaches the WORD, the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, He will have to preach Doctrine. But many do not.

A young and up-coming preacher whose name was Timothy was admonished to take heed first unto himself and then unto THE DOCTRINE of the Holy Writ.

It is estimated that there are today approximately fourteen hundred different sects, creeds and denominations. I believe with all my heart that the Dunkard Brethren are preaching and teaching sound Biblical Doctrine. It is the responsibility of each one to LIVE IT as the Bible teaches.

The true Doctrine, the Word, if one obeys its teachings, will bring deliverance to a soul and free him from the bondage of sin,

which, otherwise would mean eternal. That is the ultimate reason Jesus Christ died on the Cross.

We notice that "The good Soldier of the Cross" the Apostle Paul advised another promising young minister telling him, "But speak thou the things which become **SOUND DOCTRINE**." (Titus 2:1) That minister's name was Titus.

The complication here is that there are sound doctrines and there are doctrines being taught that are not sound, but false.

Peter foreknew that in the latter times the genuine doctrine would not be preached by many ministers. Centuries ago, he wrote in II Peter 2:1, "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction."

Sorry to say, we have plenty of false doctrine being preached in our day. The necessity of baptism, uncut, covered hair for the Sisters, feet washing and not dressing in worldly fashions are some of the true doctrines that many preachers ignore. The failing of modern preachers to **PREACH THE WORD** is a major cause for the horrible condition our country is in at the present time.

I am positively sure that these young ministers did as they were instructed by Paul. I do not think that they hesitated one minute to preach sound doctrine. The true doctrine is based upon a solid foundation. It is founded upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets and Jesus Christ is the chief cornerstone.

Teachers of history, English, algebra and many other subjects stay by the book they are teaching from. Why shouldn't teachers and preachers stay by the Bible? They are attempting to please man rather than trying to please God. They definitely will have to give an answer on the day of judgment. What acceptable answer can they give? **NONE**.

The true **FOUNDATION** can never be removed or destroyed. The gates of Hell shall not prevail against it. All the skeptics, agnostics, modernists, infidels, false teachers and such like, are leading masses of people astray. Such leaders are blind leaders and we read in Matthew 15:14, "... And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch." Too many preachers today have their eyes and mind set on the amount of filthy lucre they receive, rather than on the Spiritual welfare of their congregation.

The doctrine was declared on the day of Pentecost. The devil has been busy two thousand years since, working through unbelievers, trying to overthrow God's Plan of Salvation. God is the author of this wonderful message of repentance and remission of sins in **HIS NAME** to be preached to all nations which began at Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost.

What can the obeying of the Doctrine do for us? The Apostle Paul gave a glimpse of what it can do. Romans 6:17-18, "But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness."

It is an indescribable blessing to have our sins forgiven. Any person who does not believe these inspired words is definitely wrong, and according to the Holy Scriptures is eternally lost.

The Apostle tells us in Galatians 1:15-16, "But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace. To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:". Paul did not have much theology, but he had an abundant knee-ology. ALL MINISTERS SHOULD RELY ON KNEE-LOGY AND LESS ON THEOLOGY.

To be continued

Brother Paul R. Myers

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BITTER HERBS AT THE FEAST

"... and with bitter herbs they shall eat it." Exodus 12:8.

Most people, when pressed, will admit to having a "sweet tooth." In other words, they will acknowledge that they like eating sweets. Not many, though, will confess to having a "bitter tooth." Offered a choice between something sweet and something bitter, virtually everyone will choose the former.

So it is with life. People long for the "sweet" experiences in life but bemoan the "bitter" times. Nevertheless, God has a purpose for both sweetness and bitterness. Thus he commanded the Jews to eat their Passover meal with bitter herbs.

The Passover was a time of deliverance. The long period of bondage in Egypt was coming to an end. Freedom for the enslaved Israelites would come in the morning. If anything would seem out of place in such a time of great joy, it would be partaking of something bitter. Why then would bitter herbs be eaten at the Passover meal?

God intended the bitter herbs to teach the Israelites an important spiritual lesson. In the land of promise, it would be easy for them to forget the misery they suffered under Egyptian slavery. Once a year, then, the bitter herbs would be a reminder

of those times. While eating the bitter herbs, a Jew would recall the sufferings in Egypt, and thus have greater reason to thank God for His goodness toward them.

Likewise, God is well acquainted with our human nature. He knows that, in prosperity, we might be tempted to say, "Who is the Lord?" (Proverbs 30:9) God is well aware of the tendency for well-fed men to tell Him, "Depart from us, for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways." (Job 21:14) Even Christians can fall into an attitude of complacency and neglect to acknowledge God in their thoughts. So God provides for bitterness in the midst of joy lest His people forget His benefits.

When we approach the Communion table, let us meditate upon the wisdom of God in allowing the bitter things to prevade our lives. Let us focus our thoughts upon the goodness of God in delivering us from the bondage of sin and placing us in the Kingdom of His Son. (Colossians 1:13) Let us remember that we, who were once slaves to sin, are, by God's grace, heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ Jesus. (Romans 8:17).

Brother Lynn H. Miller

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PONDERING, PROCLAIMING AND PRACTICING

I Timothy 4:13, "Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine."

These words of instruction were given to young Timothy by the Apostle Paul. While the advice is given from an apostle to a preacher, we believe it is good advice for all believers. The reason this instruction was given was because of the warning in verse 1 of this chapter. "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils." Three signs of this departing from the faith that the apostle gave was speaking lies in hypocrisy, forbidding to marry and commanding to abstain from meats. We will speak of the first of these in more detail. It is very interesting to us that the last two were literally fulfilled in a religious system that brought havoc to the true faith. Today those who belong to such organizations as the World and National Councils of Churches are growing closer and closer to full fellowship with this apostate religion.

"Speaking lies in hypocrisy", as we understand it, means to speak a lie while making it sound like Bible truth. There are at least two ways in which this is accomplished. Many modern

(Continued on Page 10)

GENERAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

of the

DUNKARD BRETHREN CHURCH

to be held at

ROXBURY HOLINESS CAMPGROUNDS

ROXBURY, PENNSYLVANIA

JUNE 6, 1992 thru JUNE 10, 1992

PREACHING PROGRAM

TIME	SPEAKER	SUBJECT	TEXT
Sat. P.M.	Scott Bross	"Who Are Your Friends"	1 Sam. 18:1-4
Sat. P.M.	Marlin Marks	"Christ's Aspiration For His Church"	Luke 19:13
Sat. Eve.	Warren Smith	"Reputation"	Rom. 1:8
Sun. A.M.	Bible Study for Children	"The Parable of the Sower"	Luke 8:4-15
Sun. A.M.	Eldon Mallow	"For What Is Your Life"	James 4:14
Sun. A.M.	Eugene Kauffman	"Lets Dig"	Gen. 26:18
Sun. P.M.	Emmert Shelly	"A Bottle In The Smoke"	Psa. 119:83
Sun. P.M.	Frank D. Shaffer	To be supplied	
Sun. Eve.	Ray Reed	"The Preeminence Of Christ"	Col. 1:18
Sun. Eve.	Mark Andrews	To the Young People "Real Life"	John 14:6
Mon. A.M.	Bible Study Adults:	"Prepared To Serve God"	1 Tim. 2:1-26
	Children:	"Jesus Raises Lazarus To Life"	John 11:1-46
Mon. A.M.	Frank E. Shaffer	"My Son Died For You"	Rom. 8:31-39
Mon. P.M.	Robert Lehigh	"The Hidden Talent"	Matt. 25:14-30
Mon. P.M.	Ray Studer	"Keepers: Keep On Keeping"	Phil. 2:15.
Mon. Eve.	William Heisey	"Separation"	Luke 16:19-31
Mon. Eve.	Rudy Shaffer	"Used Or Refused Of God"	2 Cor. 12:1-11
Tues. A.M.	Bible Study Adults:	"God's Deliverance Of The Distressed"	Psa. 40:1-17
	Children:	"A Powerful Storm Shipwrecks Paul"	Acts 27
Tues. A.M.	Philip Gish	To be supplied.	
Tues. P.M.	Galen Shelly	"Making A LASTING Impact"	Dan. 12:25-30
Tues. P.M.	The Decorum Committee		
Tues. Eve.	Milton Cook	Missionary Sermon: "A World Turned Upside Down"	Acts 17:1-9

preachers are preaching the truth on certain subjects but their lives are a living lie. There are others who are preaching against Bible truths while proclaiming to uphold the infallible Word of God. At the same time they are teaching false doctrines that are popular with the masses. This is why the instructions from the Apostle Paul to Timothy are so important for every believer today.

We must "give attendance to reading" or pondering the Word of God. It is sad that many who wear a plain suit or prayer veil do not know what the Word of God has to say on these subjects. When we say "know" we are speaking of more than a head knowledge. Most, if not all, are aware that the prayer veil is found in I Corinthians 11. But all too many are not able to defend this practice with the power of the Holy Spirit. You will notice that it is the Spirit that speaketh expressly that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith. This same Spirit that warns us will establish our hearts in the true faith if we allow Him to. Unlike the prayer covering, plain suits cannot be found in Holy Scripture. However, Scripture does give a valid reason for wearing a plain suit. First of all it should keep us from immodest apparel. Secondly it is a sign of being separate from the world and its customs. We believe every Brethren doctrine that we teach and practice can be found within the pages of Holy Scripture. Furthermore, if we truly ponder the truths of Scripture and allow the Holy Spirit to guide we can avoid lies in hypocrisy.

However, knowing the truth in our hearts is not all that is required of us. We must give attendance to exhortation or proclaiming these truths to others. We are aware that we will be accused of being legalists if the sermons preached from our pulpits go beyond the blood of Christ and the need of salvation. While there are many "Bible believing" preachers today who will preach against sin, the majority will also tell you that what you do has nothing to do with your salvation. This is speaking lies in hypocrisy! We could fill these pages with quotes from Holy Scripture proving that those who practice sin without a true desire and attempt to depart from it will end up in Hell. But all too many are like those who are speaking lies in hypocrisy. The last part of this verse reads, "having their conscience seared with a hot iron;". We may never reach those in this condition, but we are still commanded to proclaim the truth to all we come into contact with. This is not only true of our preachers but of every true born again believer who is a part of the plain way of life. We are not called to judge the salvation of others. But we are called to defend the true faith. We say this in love and hope we are not being judgmental, but we hear all too few sermons that proclaim our Brethren faith and all too many that sound like those preached by eternal security radio preachers.

Last of all we must give attendance to doctrine or practicing the faith. We can have the truth in our hearts, share it with others and feel secure. But if we do not practice it in our daily lives we are speaking lies in hypocrisy. While it is not our desire to bring unnecessary conflict into our Brethren fellowship, we are concerned that our outward appearance seems to be a burden rather than the joy of witnessing to many who express themselves. Much that was one time part of our identification has been laid aside. We are greatly concerned about what may be next. "What you look like is not important to God" is what is being taught in the majority of churches across the land and in the world. BUT THIS IS NOT WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES.

Let us desire to ponder, proclaim and practice the Word of God. Within these Holy pages is found the way to Heaven. Have you made the first step and accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? Have you been cleansed by His blood and baptized? Are you willing to follow the truths therein? May this be the goal of all true believers.

Brother James M. Hite
816 E. Birch St.
Palmyra, PA 17078

SIXTY YEARS AGO

May 1, 1932

THE CHURCH AT WORK

B. E. Kesler

The call to discipleship means a call to work. There is no place for idlers in God's vineyard, and no excusable answer to, "Why stand ye here all the day idle?" The call to service is, "Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive." And this implies work, for there is no reason to expect to "receive" the "whatsoever" unless we earn it by actual service. But "what shall we do that we may work the works of God?" "This is the work of God that ye believe on him whom he hath sent." That's easy, isn't it? Yes, when we grasp the meaning or get the idea of what it really means to "believe."

It's easy to see faith in a heart that is cheerfully obedient, but it would be difficult, if not impossible, to see faith in a heart that is wilfully disobedient. And since we are to be obedient, it therefore follows, that the "Lord of the vineyard" has prescribed the work and outlined the service to be rendered.

The nature of this work is concisely, yet comprehensively, stated in "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel" or "Go ye therefore and teach all nations." And preaching this Gospel in

its fulness, and "teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" embraces or covers the entire work to be done. And the "world" or "all nations" embraces the entire realm of human habitation, the home, the community, the state, the nation, the world, wherever man dwells, which may be designated "home" and "foreign" work. And the more important of these is home work, for without it there can little be done in the foreign field.

The field, then, lies open before us, and the important matter that confronts us is what we are going to do about it. The work is urgent and the time is short. Whatever is done must be done, for "we shall not pass this way again."

The Gospel is to be preached, sinners converted, churches established, believers edified, discipline maintained, order preserved, and unity secured and kept. "Yes, all kinds of work we may find in this field, our task then quite plain we may see", and the thing for us to do is to roll up our sleeves and "go to it." It occurs to us we have spent quite enough time laying plans and forming rules of conduct through Conference enactments and we should soon inaugurate constructive measures for aggressive work.

In order to maintain unity of purpose and uniformity in practice, it is necessary for Conference to give expression on such matters as are not clearly defined or specifically stated in the Gospel. Otherwise, confusion and disorder prevails. To walk by the same rule, mind the same thing and be perfectly joined together in the same judgment and no divisions amongst us, there must be a centralizing force or power to which all cheerfully submit and whose advice and council all willingly follow. Otherwise, the practice in no two congregations may be alike. All would depend on the elder or leader of the congregation. To illustrate: A congregation in a certain denomination believed in feet washing, and practiced it. A new pastor was elected who did not believe in it. As a result, feet washing was discontinued in that congregation. And so would it be in many other cases or with many other practices, as the use of the Lord's Prayer, manner of observing communion, wearing of questionable apparel, or visiting questionable places or indulging in questionable games and so forth.

The function of Conference is not to make laws, but to give counsel and advice on the many subjects which are of importance, and upon which the Bible may not be specific, and to formulate rules of conduct in harmony with the general tenor of the Scriptures so that all may act alike and work harmoniously in such cases. Otherwise, the will of the leader in each church will be the rule, and confusion the result.

In this sense the church is a theocratic democracy. It does not make laws, but formulates rules or methods of procuring uniformity

in the practice in such cases which cannot be secured any other way. So the matter resolves itself into the question of following an individual or the counsel of many individuals in Conference.

We are told "in the multitude of counsel there is safety." The greatest of the apostles in counsel with a local church would not set up a rule on a vital question, but sent it up to the highest tribunal in the church, the first and perhaps the only, conference in the apostolic church. In such cases a general Conference is necessary. It worked admirably in that case and may still do so in similar cases.

Cases continually arise in which it would be presumptuous for a local church, however great its leader, to presume to set up a rule for the entire body. In such cases the entire body should have a voice by its representatives, which can only be through conference. In this way uniform disciplinary measures and unity in practice may be preserved.

Conference is not infallible, however, and in one way or another may err in its decisions and such decisions may be revised or changed from time to time until a stand is reached as nearly as may be in harmony with the Scriptures, and when this position is reached, all should be willing to abide by it. When this is done, peace, harmony and unity will prevail and the church will be a power for good in the world. Amen!

OUR SATURDAY NIGHT

Calling On Busy People

J. H. Moore

While engaged in editorial work in Mount Morris, Illinois, a student one time came into my office and said: "Have you time to talk a little?" "Yes," I replied, "I have time to talk, but no time to wait." He understood the meaning, took a seat, and said what he had to say. He did not stop to think about something else, in order to prolong the conversation. He had his points well in mind, and was not slow about presenting them. No time was lost in this interview, and when we were through with the subject in hand, he went on about his business, and I resumed my work at the desk, feeling all the while like seeking an opportunity to commend the young man for his good sense. I was full of business that day, had little time to spare, but was really helped by the short call.

At the College was another young man who frequently called on me. When he entered the room he walked straight up to my desk, hat in hand, and told his story at once. Sometimes we talked two minutes, at others five, and probably a time or two, he took ten minutes of my time. But when he was through he knew it, and took his departure as quickly as he came. I never felt that time was wasted by talking to that class of people.

Then, on the other hand, I have had persons come to my desk, who did not seem to know what they wanted. They wanted to

talk, but had nothing special in their mind to talk about. Their main purpose seemed to be to while away an hour or two.

Well, while it is our duty to be courteous to people of this class, still, how much better it would be if they could cultivate different habits and learn the value of brevity when calling on busy people. It takes some people a long while to learn this lesson, but it is a lesson that every young man and young woman should master.

But we have never been greatly annoyed in this way, and have little reason for complaining, still we happen to know of instances when busy people were greatly annoyed by these careless callers. We have known them to call on professors of literary institutions, and detain them from their work for hours. It would have been a great deal better to make a short call, talk over the matter in hand, and then withdraw.

We call attention to an annoyance that deserves more than a passing notice. It may be Sunday morning. The minister is getting ready to preach. He is preparing his subject as well as himself. He has a message for his congregation, and is getting matters in shape to do his best in the Lord's work. Some one calls. It is not quite meeting time, and he wants to have a little talk with the minister. It may be about some trouble. The talk lengthens out; the hour for church comes, and the preacher must go before his congregation unprepared to deliver his message. He enters the pulpit, feeling that he cannot do justice to the Master's cause. However, he must make the attempt. The time must be occupied, and though he may not reach the hearts of the people, still custom demands that he go on to the end of the service. He returns home after preaching, feeling deep down in his troubled heart that his well-meant efforts have proved a failure, all because someone did not think.

A busy wife and mother goes from room to room in the performance of her household duties. Breakfast is over, the children have been started off to school, and she is doing her utmost to straighten up things, and have dinner ready when the children come home from school and when the husband comes from the shop or field. She has planned well. She can complete her many task and still secure a little rest on the lounge or in the comfortable rocking chair.

But at eleven here comes Mrs. B. She lives just across the street, has few cares and means to call just a minute. Thirty minutes are consumed, and this throws the good housewife all out of tune for preparing and enjoying the dinner with her family. The husband sees that something is wrong and so do the children. The dinner is eaten, but not enjoyed. Everything is late, the children must run to reach the schoolroom before the last bell rings and the husband too has to make great haste so he will not be late at his work.

The mother and wife is left alone again, tired, sad and discouraged. All the afternoon the work drags, and she begins to

wish that her life might have been different. When, late in the night, she goes to her room she feels in her troubled heart that the day has been no blessing to her, and she wonders how long life will thus continue. If people would only think! But some of them do not, and what cannot be cured may have to be endured.

OBITUARY

LUKE EBERLY

Bro. Luke Eberly, son of Bro. Marvin and the late Sis. Elsie Eberly, was born June 11, 1943 in Lebanon, Pennsylvania. He passed from this life to a better one Beyond December 22, 1991, at the age of 48 years. He resided at Mt. Hope Dunkard Brethren Home for the last eight years. He was a member of the Dunkard Brethren Church, Lititz, Pennsylvania.

He was married to Sis. Rita Longenecker Eberly. To this union, were born three children, a son Timmy, who preceded him in death and two daughters, Marcy Reed and Tricia Gipe. Also surviving are one grandson, Wesley Reed and four brothers, Allen, Amos, Mark and Paul.

Funeral services were held at Frystown Conservative Baptist Brethren Church, December 26, 1991. Brethren Rudy Shaffer, James Eberly and Paul Hartz officiated.

We, as a family, want to thank all who have shown him kindness through the years of his illness and who have extended sympathy to us at this time. God bless you all.

The Eberly Family

NEWS ITEMS

WEST FULTON, OHIO

The West Fulton Congregation is looking forward to their spring Lovefeast, May 16 and 17, with services starting at 11:00 A.M. Saturday. We cordially invite all who can to come and worship with us.

Sister Diane Heisey, Cor.

LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

Once again we have been refreshed from the Springs of Living Waters. We have been well fed through Bro. Jan Heisey. May God richly bless Bro. Jan and Sis. Freda and family as they continue in His service.

We were made to rejoice when one precious soul, Rebecca Eberly, daughter of Bro. Roy and Sis. Sandra Eberly received Christ as her Savior.

May we pray for the new lambs as they come into the church that they may remain true and faithful.

Sister Dorcas Myers, Cor.

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BIBLE MONITOR

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MAY 15, 1992

NO. 9

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

MADE PERFECT THROUGH SUFFERING

I bless thee, Lord, for sorrows sent
To break my dream of human power;
For now, my shallow cistern spent,
I find thy founts, and thirst no more.

I take Thy hand, and fears grow still;
Behold thy face, and doubts remove;
Who would not yield his wavering will
To perfect Truth and boundless Love?

That Love this restless soul doth teach
The strength of thine eternal calm;
And tune its sad but broken speech
To join on earth the angel's psalm.

Oh, be it patient in thy hands,
And drawn, through each mysterious hour,
To service of thy pure commands,
The narrow way of Love and Power.

- Samuel Johnson

CHASTISEMENT

It is never easy to face rebuke. Although we have done wrong, we do not like to be told that we have been caught doing what we should not have done. We may find excuses or we may blame someone else.

This is one of the far reaching effects of the sin of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. The imperfection of human is very evident. If sin had not entered the human family, then each could be perfect. Because sin did enter through the disobedience of our foreparents, we are very prone to make mistakes and to commit sins. Therefore we are open to chastisement.

We must have our errors pointed out, so we will be more careful with our lives and give diligence to avoiding making future mistakes. If we are not chastised, it does not mean that we are without sin, but that those who care for our Spiritual wellbeing, are not as apt as they should be in warning us, so we could do better. It is not pleasant to be reproached for mistakes, but if received in the right spirit it can be profitable in our Spiritual lives.

One of the prime responsibilities of parents, especially fathers, is the disciplining of their children. If children are to grow up with habits that are worthwhile and helpful, they must be molded while still young. The parents will not find pleasure in correcting their children, but it is necessary. Sometimes, the same points must be made over and over. It seems at times that no learning is occurring, for the disobedience may become repetitious and monotonous. If parents are faithful and do not grow weary in their responsibility, the children will learn, at the very least, that the parents care enough to continuously watch out for the child's well-

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being, although the child may think their persistence is hard to bear. The parent should be chastening the child, not so the parent feels important and powerful, but for the child's ultimate, lifelong well-being. Unchastised children grow up to be undisciplined adults, who though grown in body, are actually children in mind and spirit.

God also chastens His children for the same reasons. He wants them to grow and improve in their Spiritual lives. Continuously giving His children everything that they would desire would be as disastrous as parents giving their children everything they could ever hope for. God knows far better than we do, what is the best for us. He brings unpleasant times into our lives, so we can learn to remain steady under adversity. He also wants us to learn to depend on Him. He has promised to never leave nor forsake us, however tough the going may be.

We find this illustrated in the life of Job. Job was a good man, who was seeking to do the Lord's will. Satan wished to prove that Job only served God because of the blessings that he had received. It was Satan's theory that if all were taken from Job, he would quickly turn from God. Without Job understanding what was happening concerning Satan's challenge to God, the chastening began.

God allowed Satan to go only so far in dealing with Job. First, he could not touch Job's body. Later, after Job passed that test, Satan was allowed to even touch his body, but could not take his life. This would illustrate that Satan can only go so far. He cannot go beyond what God allows, so we can have confidence that God is well able to see us through what we must face. Also, we can see that Satan can only do evil. Whatever he would do, to, or for, us, it is never good but evil.

The hardest part of Job's trial was not the loss of his possessions and his family. It was the advice from his wife to turn from God. Then his supposed friends continued to accuse him of uncommitted crimes. They were poor counselors. From this unprovoked chastisement, Job learned forgiveness and gave us an unparalleled example of human patience.

From the example of Job and other saints of the past, we may learn a greater desire to be involved in living to please God. We should be more determined to face and overcome the oppositions that are flung against us. Not a one of us have ever faced as much cruelty, hatred and meanness as Jesus. He faced all that mankind could pour upon Him, and He ended up forgiving them.

Are we apt students when God deals with us through chastening? Are we more likely to rebel against the lessons He is seeking to instill within us than to profit from them? He wishes we

would profit by these lessons. He does not chasten us just to prove His might, He does it that we might be better able to face the events of life and remain firmly imbedded in His way.

Have you been chastened? How did you react? Was it profitable? Fulfill God's will and grow thereby.

FAITHFUL MOTHERS NEEDED

"... we... do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding." Colossians 1:9.

God bless you today in the role as a wife and mother! May He help you put first things first, by sifting out the most important one.

As we mothers get busier with each new baby, we may feel that we are not living up to our first ideals of mothering and home-making. Sometimes we wonder which jobs to do and which to let go. A family must eat, keep clean, be clothed and happy. We have already cut corners once, twice and three times, dare we cut them again? Yes, we must sift again.

When it comes to eating, we should do what we can to provide a balanced diet. Good stewardship, Christian simplicity, and good health habits do not encourage rich desserts at each meal. Cut corners by doubling or tripling recipes and putting extras in the freezer.

When it comes to keeping clean, everything does not need to be immaculate all the time. But neither do we need to be sloppy or slothful, living in a cluttered house all the time.

Keep children involved in all household activities of the day. By staying calm, patient and joyful your spirit will spill over into the rest of the family. Sing together while you wash dishes, preserve vegetables or ride in a vehicle going places. Read to your children before naptime or bedtime.

Oh, for the wisdom to spend enough time with each job, and yet not neglect taking time out for love and real joys, the important issues of life! If we fail in the true values of life when our children are small, they may fail us when they are grown. A little dust, a little dirt, some weeds in the garden, and some long grass will not hurt anyone. But if our children grow up not knowing of love, peace, joy, doing things together, and learning about God, our immaculate housekeeping, has been for nothing. Let us ask God for wisdom. "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." James 1:5

May God help us: to find rest in doing His will; to take time with our children at work and play; to perpetuate a spirit of joy and

cheer in the home; to communicate with our head – the husband; to be at peace with ourselves and our fellow-women.

Knowing this, that we are called of Him, to fill the unique role of wife, mother, teacher, nurse, seamstress, cook, laundress, cleaning woman, and perhaps Sunday School teacher... No one can pay us for the worth of what we do except our husband and children. Their payments will never be monetary, but of far greater worth! The rewards are too many to name. Lord, open your eyes that we may be able to see them.

God Bless you – Mothers!

In Christian Love,
Sister Shirley Frick

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

What do we believe relative to the Deity of Jesus Christ?

PART 1: JESUS WHO?

Matthew 16:16 says, "... THOU ART THE CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD."

Over nineteen and a half centuries ago, in the land far from us, a Babe was born... and that Babe was named Jesus. Whatever you believe about Him, you must acknowledge the fact that He was born. The evidence is too overwhelming to question this fact.

History is filled to overflowing with the fact of Jesus.

First, there comes the testimony of the ancient church fathers and martyrs... men like Barnabas, Clement, Ignatius and Polycarp... men who filled their writings with stories of the life and teaching of Jesus of Nazareth, and many of whom died a martyr's death rather than retract their testimony.

Then there is the evidence of the historians of that time. Many of these men were non-Christian, but intellectual honesty compelled them to write of the man named Jesus.

Most of you are familiar with the writings of Josephus. Josephus was not a Christian... he was a Jewish historian. In his Antiquities of the Jews, Josephus gives a startling testimony; "Now, there was about this time Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man, for he was a doer of wonderful works,... a teacher of such men as received the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews and many of the Gentiles. He was the Christ; and when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men among us have condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him, for he appeared to them alive again the third day, as the divine prophets had foretold

these and then thousand other wonderful things concerning him; and the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct at this day."

The testimony of the Roman historian, Cornelius Tacitus was "They were commonly called Christians. The founder of that name, Christus, had been put to death by the procurator, Pontius Pilate, in the region of Tiberius, but the deadly superstition, though repressed for a time, broke out again, not only through Judea..."

Lucian, probably the greatest Greek writer of the Christian era, refers to the death of the founder of the Christian religion on a stake in Palestine, and says that He gave the world a superior code of morals.

Gaius Velleius Paterculus, a Roman historian, tells how he saw Jesus face to face; that Jesus was a remarkable character; that he feared Him more than he did a whole army; that Jesus cured all manner of diseases, raised the dead, and cursed fruit trees that withered immediately; that He never used His power to hurt anyone, but to aid the poor; that the people were divided in their opinions of Him, the poorer class claiming Him as their king, the rich hating Him and cursing Him behind His back.

There is the written testimony yet extant of others who claimed that they met this Jesus. There is the testimony of Melker, the Jewish priest at Bethlehem, who said that he saw the star, the Magi, and the shepherds, and who later became a follower of the Lord.

There is the testimony of Jonathan, a detective of Jerusalem, who declared that he was employed to ferret out Jesus' family at Nazareth.

There is the testimony of Caiaphas, the High Priest before whom Jesus was tried. Do you realize that a few years ago the record of the resignation of Caiaphas from the Jewish Sanhedrin was discovered in the Mosque of St. Sophia in Constantinople? In this document he states that he is resigning from the royal court because he is convinced that something transcending the laws of nature took place at the tomb!

In addition to the historical data which is assembled, we have the testimony of other religious books which were written during Christ's time, that bear testimony to Jesus of Nazareth. In fact, even the KORAN, the sacred book of the Mohammedans, speaks of the complete sinlessness of Jesus. It declares that He could heal the sick, the blind, lepers... and raise the dead. He was even said to have a "knowledge of secret things."

There are several Jewish sources which speak to us eloquently of the historic Jesus. The Talmud, The Mishna, the Gemara and

the Midrashim all refer to Jesus as "the Son of the Stake," "such a one," "the one hanged." They say that He had no father! They also say He could raise the dead, but ascribe this power to necromancy and black magic, which they say he learned in Egypt. History is filled with Jesus... it is His Story!

Every time we write the date we are confessing that nineteen hundred and ninety two years ago... there was a Person born who was great enough to mark the dividing line in history... B.C. (before Christ) and A.D.... anno Domini, "in the year of our Lord." The world's date lines bend around the manger of Bethlehem. If we question Jesus... we need not write the date!

It is virtually impossible to be around a group of worldly men or women for five minutes without hearing someone "confess" that Jesus Lived. Profanity and obscenity are the order of the day and the name taken in vain is the One who lived and is the Messiah.

Every Winter and each Spring the world pauses to observe holidays which would be meaningless without Jesus. Christmas and Easter would be meaningless if Jesus had never lived, died and rose again.

Yes, Jesus lived. But, was He just a good man or even the best man who ever lived? You must know who He was, because your eternity depends on your understanding of that question.

When Jesus came into the area of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, "Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?" They had many answers just as men have today. But, then He put them to the acid test. "But whom say ye that I am?" The question is ultimately not what others say about Him. What do you say about Him? Peter said, "Thou art the Christ, the son of the living God."

Believe. By faith, accept the testimony... based on fact... of who He is. He is the Son of God, your Saviour, the Saviour of the world.

To be continued
Brother Len Wertz

WHAT HAS BECOME OF THE SOUND DOCTRINE OF THE BIBLE?

Part 2

Part 1 closed with the thought of the need for a minister to spend time in humble prayer as a necessity to faithfully preaching the sound doctrine of God's Word.

The Apostle Paul further states, "But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I

neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ." Galatians 1:11-12.

It appears that there are those who do not preach doctrine and are ashamed to. In my vicinity, I am well acquainted with a certain independent congregation that is adding members so fast that they have had to build on to their new church three times, but what about DOCTRINE? The preacher announced that they would study the Book of John for their Wednesday night Bible Study. One of their own members told me this: When they came to the 13th chapter, their minister announced that they would skip that chapter, since it was not revelent today, but was only for the disciples in their day. I believe in the doctrine recorded in John 13. I want to have a part with Jesus.

The Apostle Paul tells us that he was not ashamed of what he preached for it was the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believed. Romans 1:16. The Apostle Paul preached the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Not only did Paul preach it, but all the rest of the Apostles and preachers of the early Church of the New Testament preached the same thing.

Where the true doctrine is preached today, it will have the same effect that it had in the early days when people cried out, "WHAT SHALL WE DO." They were instructed to be baptized for the remission of their sins. Trine immersion is one of the doctrinal landmarks, which has largely been removed from modern Churches. What a loss to them and they seemingly care not.

We are WARNED in Proverbs 22:28, "Remove not the ancient landmark, ..." It matters not that many do not believe the Doctrine, it is true, nevertheless. People's unbelief does not change God's Word one particle.

To follow the Lord, you MUST obey the Doctrine. To refuse the doctrine is to refuse the voice of the Holy Spirit.

Regarding the Doctrine, the Apostle Paul preached the same thing everywhere he went. The doctrine he preached at Corinth, he preached at Rome.

The night he was in the Philippian jail with thirty-nine stripes on his back and with his feet in stocks, both he and his Brother Silas did not soft-pedal their message. They did not change doctrines because they were imprisoned, but from there preached the old time gospel with such force that its fruits led to the establishing of the Philippian Church. The same message was proclaimed by the Apostle Peter. Paul instructed Timothy to charge those at Ephesus to teach no other doctrine. I Timothy 4:16.

Paul wrote to the Galatians that they were believing something else, but that there was NO SOMETHING else except the true

doctrine. He wrote, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." He knew that in the last days the doctrine would be denied.

Dear Brethren and Sisters, there is no other doctrine or gospel for us today. Only the gospel and doctrine once delivered unto the saints. If any man preach any other gospel unto you, let him be accursed.

Therefore, let us take heed unto ourselves and to the Doctrine.

"Let those who preach, practice what Paul told Titus in Titus 2:1, **"BUT SPEAK THOU THE THINGS WHICH BECOME SOUND DOCTRINE."**

Brother Paul R. Myers
5005 Higbee Ave., N.W.
Canton, Ohio 44718

OUR STRONG HOLD

Nahum 1:7, "The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him."

Romans 8:31, "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"

One of the dictionary definitions for "strong hold" is "(a) secure refuge." When the storms of life toss us to and fro we need a strong refuge to keep us from sinking into the depths of despair. We praise God that "The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble."

A well known and highly respected financial expert, who uses the Bible as his guide, is urging all individuals and families to become debt free in order to meet the financial crisis he is predicting. The world is full of famine, disease and lack of water. Our mail box is full many days of the week with cries for help for those in need around the world. Individuals who have worked for a well established company for years have suddenly found themselves without employment when the news of bankruptcy was announced. New diseases, such as AIDS, have entered into the homes of those within the church and devastated the innocent. In light of all of this, can we still say, "God is good?"

We do not profess to have an answer to this question that has plagued society and even the Church down through the centuries. However, we believe the children of God can truly say that God is good. One of the problems lies within the segment of the earthly church that teaches that we are not to accept anything that is not "good" according to the philosophy of man. If we refuse to accept the reality of sickness, sorrow, trials and temptations and believe

that God will keep us free from all of this, we can very well have a problem with God when these things do come into our lives. We must remember that we live in a sin cursed world and not one of us is free from the troubles that go with it. Another truth that is rejected by a large portion of the earthly church is that God can use these times of trial for our own good.

Yes, God is truly a strong hold in the time of trouble. We praise the Lord that He has seen fit to heal by His miraculous hand. He has provided money when there seemed to be none available. Yes, the miracles recorded in the Old and New Testament are all true and we can still experience them today! But not all the accounts of Holy Scripture speak of God intervening miraculously. It speaks of those who suffered and still believed that God was their strong hold. If the banks fail we still have God. If our bodies are broken, bruised or diseased, we still have God. If we lose all our loved ones, as did Job, we still have God. If death should overtake us and we are in a right relationship with Jesus Christ, we still have God.

Yes, "he knoweth them that trust him." What do we put our trust in? Most of us put our trust in everything but God until all else is lost. Do we have our trust in our government leaders? Most of those who use the title "Brethren" have forsaken our position that we are not to take part in voting or other political affairs. In place of this church leaders are urging their members to get involved. Perhaps the saddest part of this is the fact that many church leaders are promoting ideals that are completely opposed to the Word of God. They argue for the rights of homosexuals and lesbians and subscribe to the thinking of "pro-choice" in the matter of abortion. On the other hand, those who rush to the polls to vote against these evils will usually be disappointed. The Church is to oppose these and all evils. But our strong hold is God, not politics. It is beyond us, how many expect to change the world when the earthly church is in a spiritual wasteland to a large degree.

Do we put our trust in our employment? As has already been stated, we cannot be sure how reliable our income may be no matter how well established the company we work for is or if we own our own company or business. God is our strong hold. Are we willing to act like He is? We realize that we cannot give to every charitable group that asks, nor may it be good wisdom to do so. Many use "charity" as a money scheme to fill their own pockets. However, if we build up our bank account when there are those in need we are not being faithful to Holy Scripture. This does not mean that it is wrong to have a bank account or to put money aside for emergencies.

Do we put our trust in our church? We need the church and we stand fast on our traditions and teachings. But God, the Lord

Jesus Christ, is to be our strong hold. Not our polity or church rules. If Jesus Christ is not our strong hold the teachings of Holy Scripture will fall away. It is obvious to us that this is what happened within our own history.

"What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?" Praise His Holy Name! Let troubles come – Let all else fail; God is our strong hold – And all is well.

Brother James M. Hite
816 E. Birch St.
Palmyra, PA 17078

SIXTY YEARS AGO

May 15, 1932

"POORISH FOLKS"

Grant Mahan

A good many years ago I heard a man and his wife asked what kind of people another family were, and they replied: "They are just poorish folks." The answer shocked me, though at that time I had not made a profession of religion. The two families were members of the same denomination, were supposed to be brethren, and both families were good people, esteemed and trusted by all who knew them.

The difference was that one family had more money while the other had not; and the one that had risen financially looked down upon the one that had not, which shows that money with them counted for more than character. And so it has been since long ago. As men have grown wealthier and have been able to enjoy more of the luxuries of life, many of them have been more and more inclined to look down on those who have not so much of this world's wealth, and to think them failures. The true sense of value is lost.

I have a book, written in the thirties of last century, which has many good things to say on this subject, and I want to quote a few of them, for it will help us to think of the other side of the question, and I trust will help us to get our bearings as Christ would have us do.

"You confess that God may justly complain of you as slothful and unfaithful in his service – would Mammon be justified in urging a similar complaint? or, rather, may he not boast of you as one of his most diligent and exemplary servants? Are you providing more earnestly for the future moments of time than for the future ages of eternity? Are you spending life in providing the

means of living, and are you thus living to no end?" Were two courses open to you, the one bright and gold, but beset with temptation; the other less lucrative, but rich in religious advantages – which would you be likely to adopt?

"Justly has a foreign writer observed, for instance, that 'the supreme influence of wealth, in this country, may be judged of by the simple phrase, that a man is said to be worth so much' – worth just so much as his money amounts to and no more." How constantly are individuals and families pronounced respectable – that is the favorite password into society – when, if reference were had to their character, to anything but their wealth, they would be entitled to anything but respect. What is ordinarily understood by good society? Certainly the exclusion of nothing bad but poverty: it may exclude every one of the virtues, provided there be sufficiency of wealth."

The consequence of affixing the highest worldly reward to wealth, is, that to be rich is accounted a merit, and to be poor an offense. Nor is this the worst: a false standard of morality is thus created, by which it is made of less consequence to be wise and virtuous, than to be rich."

"What more is wanting to induce the many to believe, a sober truth, the ironical definition of the satirist, that 'worth means wealth – and wisdom, the art of acquiring it'?"

How much change has been made in the estimate of the value of money since the above was written? How much do we lack of measuring most things by their money value? How often persons are kept from taking the place to which they are entitled simply because of their lack of wealth! And this is as true in the church as elsewhere. One thing we need to impress upon our minds and hearts, which is that we can take none of our material wealth with us when we leave this world. But we can send it ahead by using it right in life.

FIVE WORDS TO LIVE BY

LOOKING, LISTENING, LEARNING, LOVING, LIVING

LEARNING

Deuteronomy 4:10, "Specially the day that thou stoodest before the Lord thy God in Horeb, when the Lord said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children." Please read verses 1-16.

Romans 15:4, "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and

comfort of the scriptures might have hope." Please read verses 1-7.

Deuteronomy 5:1, "And Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them." Please read verses 1-21.

Deuteronomy 17:19, "And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the Lord his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them." Please read verses 14-20.

Deuteronomy 18:9, "When thou art come into the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations."

Deuteronomy 31:12-13, "Gather the people together, men, and women, and children, and thy stranger that is within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear the Lord your God, and observe to do all the words of this law: And that their children, which have not known any thing, may hear, and learn to fear the Lord your God, as long as ye live in the land whither ye go over Jordan to possess it." Please read verses 7-13.

Psalms 119:7, "I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments." Please read verses 1-8.

Psalms 119:71, "It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes." Please read verses 65-72.

Psalms 119:73, "Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments." Please read verses 73-80.

Proverbs 1:5, "A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:"

Proverbs 9:9, "Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning."

Proverbs 16:23, "The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth and addeth learning to his lips." Please read verses 16-24.

Isaiah 1:17, "Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow." Please read verses 10-20.

Isaiah 26:9, "With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness." Please read verses 1-11.

Isaiah 50:4, "The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him

that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned." Please read verses 1-11.

Daniel 1:17, "As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams." Please read verses 1-21.

Matthew 9:13, "But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." Please read verses 1-13.

Matthew 11:29, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Please read verses 10-30.

Matthew 24:32, "Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh:" Please read verses 29-42 also Mark 13:21-37.

John 6:45, "It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me." Please read verses 35-58.

John 7:15, "And the Jews marvelled, saying, How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?" Please read verses 14-24.

Acts 7:22, "And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds." Please read verses 17-36.

I Corinthians 4:6, "And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and to Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think of men above that which is written, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another." Please read verses 1-7.

I Corinthians 14:31, "For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted." Please read verses 29-33.

Philippians 4:9, "Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you." Please read verses 1-13.

II Timothy 3:14, "But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;" Please read verses 1-17.

Titus 3:14, "And let ours also learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful."

God bless you all
Brother William Carpenter

NEWS ITEMS

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

Brother Leonard Wertz has consented to minister to us for a one week revival if the Lord will it so. Our usual July meetings had to be changed to June 14 through 21. Your prayers and presence would be greatly appreciated.

There was joy in the presence of the angels and among us when Cheryl the daughter of Bro. Stephen and Sis. Karen Blocher gave her life to the Lord's service. Praise God for the wonderful display of love and mercy among the children of men.

Sister Ruth Speicher, Cor.

MECHANICSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, the Mechanicsburg Congregation is looking forward to another week of Revival Service from June 21 through 28, 1992 with Brother Ray Stuber from Felton, Pennsylvania as evangelist. Please pray for these meetings and the speaker that much good might be accomplished through these efforts. We welcome all to these services.

Since our last report we were made to rejoice when five precious souls were united with the Church below and we hope and pray with the Church above. Pray for these dear souls as they seek to serve Him and that they may grow in Grace and remain true and faithful to the end.

Sister Mary Hartz, Cor.

A NOTE OF THANKS

We wish to express our thanks to all who remembered us with cards, gifts, flowers and especially your prayers in our behalf, while in the hospital and nursing home.

We can only say thank you. May God richly bless one and all.

Brother and Sister Harold Kleinhen

A NOTE OF THANKS

I wish to thank each one who sent me get well cards during my illness. I had a heart attack and a heart catheterization. I was in the hospital for two weeks. May God bless all who prayed for my recovery. I praise God for His wonderful Love and Power.

"My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever." Psalms 73:26.

In His Love

Sister Martha Shaffer

THANK YOU

We wish to express our "heartfelt thanks" to all those who remembered us with beautiful cards for our 50th Wedding Anniversary. We appreciated them all very much. Thank you and God bless you each one.

Brother Joe and Sister Arlene Flora

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JUNE 1992

June 7 - Elijah Flees from Jezebel - I Kings 19:1-21.

1. Who was Obadiah and what position did he fill?
2. Why were they so eager to find Elijah?

June 14 - Elijah and Baal's Prophets - I Kings 18:17-46.

1. What challenge did Elijah put before the children of Israel?
2. How are we proving to our world that "The Lord is God"?

June 21 - FATHER'S DAY - Genesis 22:1-24.

1. What is the greatest calling of a father?
2. Have we "given" our children to the Lord?

June 28 - TEMPERANCE - Daniel 1:1-21.

1. How does temperance effect other areas of our life?
2. Are you a disciplined person?

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JUNE 1992

June 7 - The Good Seed - Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.

1. How can we discern good seed and tares?
2. What is the enemy sowing in your heart?

June 14 - Our Understanding - I Corinthians 2:1-16.

1. Why is good understanding important?
2. How can we improve our understanding?

June 28 - TEMPERANCE - Luke 1:13-17, Romans 14:14-20,
James 3:9-13.

1. What is temperance?
2. How can self-control protect us from sin?

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BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 10

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

STEPS AND STOPS

There are STEPS that should be taken
In the Christian's walk in life...
And there are STOPS that they should make
So they don't cause any strife.

We should be very careful
With each STEP on earth we trod
That we don't cause someone to fall,
For we must account to God

STOP to think before finding fault
(or start "straining at a gnat");
Perhaps you yourself are doing
Something much worse than that

Let the STEPS that you are taking
Lead you to a higher ground...
May you never, never move from
That inward Spirit's sound.

- Irene Stout

OUR CONVERSATION

Have you ever considered conversations that you have had with a friend? Perhaps it was a conversation at Conference with a Brother or Sister, whom you have not seen for awhile. What did you talk about?

Probably the first thing that you discussed was the weather. That is always good for an opening subject, even amongst strangers. Perhaps there was some discussion of how and when each of you came to the Conference Grounds. Perhaps there were some remarks about the blessing of being at this particular meeting and looking forward to what the Lord had in store for those present. After some expressions concerning the health of those speaking or their families or close associates, the conversation then drifted into other areas of interest. The subjects discussed probably didn't come up in a logical, organized way, but came forward as one thought suggested another one. Perhaps the drift of the conversation changed as others joined in the conversation.

The topics that come up for discussion may include the political scene, crops, the economy, employment, local disasters, national controversies, history, education, children, or any other subject that touches upon our daily lives. Hopefully, a part of the conversation will be about Spiritual subjects.

Not only should Bible subjects be examined and studied through sharing with one another, but the subjects affecting our daily lives should be discussed from the basis of Biblical application. The Bible is not only valuable as an interpreter of itself, but also as a commentary on what affects us daily. Too often we are prone to separate the events of the day from the eternal verities of the Word of God. We try to put our lives in one compartment and

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our Biblical knowledge in another. We should be solving the problems of our daily living and our environment by applying Biblical principles instead of the rational of men. Since God is greater than any man, His ideas and precepts are far higher and more useful than the best ideas that men can put forward.

Our conversations can be concerned with many Spiritual and Scriptural subjects. The concerns of our everyday living can lead us to subjects that have more longlasting usefulness. The problems we have at our work or occupation or profession can lead to discussions of Biblical ethics. We can learn from the experiences of others, where compromise on the job can lead. What would seem as a small thing when first purposed might have more serious consequences than we would at first believe. By discussing these matters with those who have faced similar situations, we can more clearly see what results have come because of their choices. The outcome may be positive or negative. When we see those who have made the hard choice of following God's will instead of their own understanding and see what the results have been, we can be encouraged to also make that hard choice. On the other hand, if we see someone make the easier choice of compromising and we see the negative results that come from it, we may have to think twice about going in the same direction. The results that come from such a choice, good or bad, may not be clearly seen for a period of time. Compromise's price may not be seen until years have passed and there is looking back to a better place that has been left behind.

Conversations can go from the present instability of marriage and family life to a discussion of the elements that would contribute to a Godly marriage and family life. The world has promoted many ideas, which are Satan's ideas with a thin veneer of respectability added. We need to talk about the permanence of marriage, not letting the world's ideas of changing and shifting partners enter in. We need to talk of the beauty of holiness in dating and courtship. We need to know what has worked to make God's Word a vital force in marriages and daily living in the home. We also need to be warned about those ideas which have proven to be more divisive than helpful. We again can learn from one another, through the experiences that we share.

As Brethren and Sisters, none of us have all the answers to all the problems of life, neither do we understand all the Bible has to impart to us. Together, in fellowship and study, we can come closer to finding the answers that God has for us. When we come together we are to worship Him, study His Word, and fellowship together. Through these activities we can help ourselves and each other to have a more fulfilled Christian life. We help each other through these activities and most often this is through our conversation.

How is your conversation? Is it only concerned with your everyday activities or does it have a Spiritual and Scriptural side? Let us help one another as we converse, that each may be encouraged to travel the strait and narrow way that leads to eternal bliss.

IMMORALITY

Part 1

Immorality is defined as: Immoral acts, unclean deeds, such as sexual sins that violate God's Word. There is more of that kind of sinning world-wide, than any other sin, and the peculiar part of it, is, that the guilty know that they are sinning.

I want to confine this article to "SEXUAL SINS" for the most part.

God approves of love and marriage. He approves of physical union between husbands and their own wives. Fornication is sexual intercourse between unmarried persons. Adultery is sexual intercourse between a married person and another, not their spouse.

Why am I writing on this subject? Because of its prevalence, today and its punishment, hereafter, I am writing this. There will be punishment unless the participating guilty ask God to forgive them and they quit their sinning.

I am much on the side lines of the work of the Dunkard Brethren Church due to my physical conditions. When I could attend Conference I enjoyed seeing so many YOUNG PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE. It was a pleasure to preach to them.

In the past I have missed six consecutive Conferences. In my mail after these Conferences, many remarked about the number of young people who were at Conference. As a minister of the Gospel, I love everyone and especially the young folks. I enjoyed their interest in the Church AND IT IS TO THIS GROUP, ESPECIALLY, THAT I APPEAL, THAT THEY NOT LIVE AN IMMORAL LIFE.

I may come too plain for some, I feel it will be of some benefit to many, if they will take heed.

It is my sincere thinking that we, as a Church are lax on this subject.

As I wrote above, God will punish the guilty. One of the ten commandments is: "Thou shalt not commit adultery." Exodus 20:13. GOD MEANT IT. There is much admonition given in God's Word teaching against adultery and fornication. To conserve space, I will quote I Cor. 6:9, "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall NOT inherit the Kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither FORNICATORS, nor idolaters, nor ADULTERERS,... nor abusers of themselves..." to the concluding phrase in the tenth verse, "...SHALL INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD."

That is God's position on the matter and elsewhere His Holy Word states, "I CHANGE NOT." Malachi 3:6.

Give close heed to what follows.

Several years ago WOMAN'S DAY magazine reported "That since 1970 the number of unmarried couples living together had

increased nearly 400 per cent. Immorality of all types has increased in the past few years. Recently AIDS has been able to put a small dent in an ever rising immorality rate."

Pornography is another sin rapidly rising in our day in America. Pornography definitely makes a difference in disease and crime. Some foreign countries were confronted with this sin before America met up with it. Norway and Sweden are afloat in the mire of sexual immorality.

In 1967 Denmark legalized pornography. Why? Because it was so prevalent and publicly displayed that the law could not control it. Then they made sex education compulsory. They eliminated all "age of consent laws". They legalized abortion. Indecent exposure was no longer unlawful. Considerably much of what Sweden allowed as lawful, is sweeping across America. Prayer is not permitted in schools, but sex is being taught in many schools along with reading, writing and arithmetic, even in lower grades. It's a disgrace to Christian America.

When I was in Denmark, I needed a Danish Bible with parallel translation in English. I tried five or six book stores, but none had this particular Bible, although it is in print. But shelves and counters were laden with pornography and with much indecent advertising and posters hanging on the walls, and even displayed in their show windows

I asked one dealer why no Bibles were available, although he had a large stock of sex literature. It did not take him long to give his answer. "WE STOCK THE MERCHANDISE THE TRADE CALLS FOR."

Filthy material is being sold by the car-load right here in America. PLAYBOY and PLAYGIRL are two of the worst type. Magazines depicting near nudism, articles in the newspapers and monthly magazines carry lots of immoral subjects. Our young folks across the land are exposed to much of this rotten stuff.

Television does not feel one bit ashamed to flash sexual scenes bringing them directly in the home where adults should not allow their children to watch it by the hour.

America is following Denmark and Sweden and will reap the same results. From the time that Denmark practically did away with law and order concerning immorality, this is what took place among their citizens. Assault increased 300 per cent. Venereal disease increased 200 per cent for those over twenty years of age, 250 per cent for those sixteen to twenty years and 400 per cent for those under sixteen years of age. Abortions are up over 500 per cent. The number of divorces doubled. Pregnancies out of wed lock are up over 50 per cent. Other types of sin and crime rose at about the same rate. Any country lax in their laws or lax in enforcing them will get in the same condition as Denmark.

There is a present stirring in America. Many feel that stronger and more enforceable laws be enacted to stem this terrible situation.

I quote one concerned official, "We have the right and the responsibility to protect our children from such trash."

President Bush is quoted as saying, "I don't believe our forefathers ever intended to create a nation where the rights of pornographers would take precedence over the rights of parents, and the violence and malevolent would be given free reign to prey upon our children."

Suicide among teenagers is another problem getting out of hand. There are signals that keen observers look for. Unusual moodiness, belligerence, apathy, poor eye contact and not paying any attention to hygiene or personal appearance.

Psychologists have presumed that two thirds of the teens that commit suicide were involved in drugs or alcohol. The list of sins that are immoral is getting longer each decade.

The Bible overwhelmingly condemns all immoral behavior. Those who are immoral have to pay a price for their immorality in this life. If they fail to repent of their sins, they will be lost Eternally. "THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH."

Part 2 will give very recent conditions of immorality in our so-called Christian Nation, America.

To be continued
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ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"Jesus, who?" Part II

In this article we want to talk about the DEITY of Jesus. It is important that we understand it, because it is paramount to our belief, as well as our church doctrine.

I have talked to people who say that Jesus never even claimed to be the Son of God. Of course, they do not read...nor do they "rightly divide" God's Word. At the young age of twelve, Jesus stayed behind to minister in the temple. After three days, a distraught mother found Him, sitting there in the midst of learned men, communicating with them and asking them questions. When she chided Him for being there and for not coming with them as He was supposed to, He said, "Know ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" At age twelve we find His first claim to be the unique Son of the heavenly Father.

In John 10:30, Jesus made this assertion, "I and the Father are one." The Jews understood well that He was making a claim to deity. As a result, they picked up stones to stone Him and claimed that He had blasphemed.

He stood before the powerful high priest and was asked, "Art

thou the Christ?" Jesus said, "I am." Could anything be more definite to confirm His deity?

Yes, Jesus claimed to be the Son of God. Either He was deceived or a deceiver...or...He was what He claimed to be. It is certainly not thinkable that the pure and holy Jesus could be a deceiver. He taught things never before considered and certainly never surpassed. He was totally holy...without sin. **HE WAS WHO HE CLAIMED TO BE...THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD.** We can accept His claim.

Even Heaven claimed Jesus' deity. In the first chapter of Luke, we have an account of the heavenly messenger appearing before the virgin Mary and announcing the coming birth of the King. She was told that the One begotten of her would be called the "Son of God."

In Matthew 1:20, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him that Mary had conceived by the Holy Spirit.

The angels sang a song that echoed over the Judean hills. That song proclaimed that the Saviour, Christ the Lord, had been born.

Even at His baptism, God said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Later He would stand with a chosen few on the Mount of Transfiguration. Again, the Father would proclaim, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." **GOD, HIMSELF, CLAIMED THE DEITY OF HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON.**

Those who knew Him best, His disciples, testified that He was the divine Son of the living God.

John said, "The Word was God." Paul said, "He is God manifest in the flesh." Thomas claimed His divinity. Peter claimed His divinity. All of these important Bible characters believed that Jesus was whom He said He was and they sealed their testimony with their lives' blood. You can accept their testimony. These men did not die for a myth.

The virgin birth of Jesus claims His deity. The Matthew 1 story is beautiful and simple. It teaches us about a humanly impossible happening. Remember, with God, however, nothing is impossible.

I refute those who say that this birth was unexplainable. There had to be a human father, they say. Of course, these same people do not fully understand natural birth, let alone this supernatural experience. We need not stumble over the supernatural. Within the supernatural is the reflection of an awesome God.

Is the virgin birth story reasonable? It is the most reasonable story ever told. Even we, with our modern methods of reaching people, understand that we must become like them to relate effectively to them. We have to speak their language, walk their

This is why God chose this means to share His message. The all-loving and powerful God had a message for humanity. This message was best communicated by the incarnation...God manifest in the flesh. This is the only reasonable way that He could be both God and man at the same time.

But, was this birth necessary? Prophetically, Jeremiah declared that no seed on Coniah would ever sit upon the throne of David and since Joseph was a descendant of Coriah, He would have had no right to the throne and the world would have been without a Savior.

The One who could take the world in His hand and send it spinning through space...the One who could breathe the breath of life into the nostrils of a newly created man and allow him to become a living soul...the One who could sustain life through all these thousands of years...this powerful One would not find it difficult to take care in fashioning the body of an infant in the womb of the virgin Mary. Old fashioned? Yes! But also as new as the latest technical information of our day. The marvelous virgin birth of Jesus claims His deity to be true.

To be continued
Brother Len Wertz

NEW THINGS

Acts 17:21, "(For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.)"

It is a scientific fact that most of the technology present in our world today was invented or became common in the last one hundred years. So much technology exists today that it is really very difficult to understand it all. Many things, like cars, automatic washers, electric stoves, central heating, and the like have made our lives more convenient, but many of these new things have made our lives more complicated. As Christians we need to be careful regarding new technology. For instance, it may be convenient to fly in an airplane, but if we take a television and VCR into our home it could damage our spiritual life. We must even be careful of old and established things. Books, for instance, could be good for us, or bad for us, depending on the book. We need to use discernment so that our lives reflect the honor and glory of God.

There are other new things that have come into prominence in the last hundred years: doctrines and philosophies. It is clear that in the scripture above the writer was speaking of philosophy. We must be careful of these things, including new "methods" of "evangelism." We must ask ourselves what these things lead to. The Athenians, if you read history, were swallowed up by other

peoples. Athens today is a crumbling fourth-rate city, without even one philosopher of renown. In their world, the "new thing" destroyed the old, established things. Look at the history of the Church. What attracted people, over a hundred years ago, to the old time Dunkard Church? We were different, and our uniqueness was based on the Gospel, which we preached. People of the world would gather at a meeting of the Brethren and outnumber them. Today, things are different. The Church, for years, has been trying to keep up with, or at the most a few years behind, the world. The world knows this and is no longer aware of what we stand for, because we seem dissatisfied with what we have. Do we endeavor to serve God and preach the Gospel, or are we after the new things?

Those churches that share a mutual history with us look back nostalgically at the past, when the brethren were more scriptural, but they do not realize what they have lost. They may have gained numbers, but have they gained souls? Those churches that have adopted "new things", are they better off?

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WAR IN HEAVEN

Revelation 12: 7-9, "And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."

There are at least three interpretations of this passage of Scripture concerning war in Heaven. Some believe that this is an account of a true happening which took place many years before the world was inhabited by mankind. Others believe that this event will take place some time in the future. Still others believe that this account is merely symbolic of the war between spiritual evil and spiritual holiness. Whatever the true interpretation of this portion of Scripture may be, three things are certain as we see it. Number one, there was no life taken or lost in this battle since spirit beings cannot die. Number two, this being the case, literal swords, and certainly not modern day bombs and missiles, were not used. Number three, this can not be used as an excuse for Christians going to war.

The following three verses in this chapter give the final results

of this war in heaven. Verse 10, "And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night." The first result we see is salvation. The popular teaching is that God is not overly concerned with the power of evil in our lives. However, the Bible makes it very clear that our salvation depends on the power of evil being "cast out" of our lives and the power of the Holy Spirit replacing it. This does not mean that we are spiritually perfect but it does mean that there must be evidence of a changed life. Secondly, the result was strength. The Holy Spirit will give us the needed strength in the hour of temptation. Satan and his angels will still attempt to drag us down to evil but they do not have the power to force us to do evil. The third result we find is the kingdom of God. We understand this to refer to the Church. Satan fears the power of the true Church. The last result we find is the power of his Christ. It is the Lord Jesus Christ and Him alone, who can conquer the powers of evil. Because of these results we find that the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. Satan no longer has the power to accuse the Saints of sins that have been forgiven.

Verse 11, "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death." Our salvation and strength is found in the blood of the lamb. The shed blood of Jesus Christ on Calvary. It was here that Satan was defeated. The teaching that Jesus Christ had to go down to Hell and literally battle with Satan to complete our salvation is a false teaching born in the mind of a man. This precious blood was what made possible the kingdom of our God, the Church. This blood is the power of His Christ. Jesus Christ was and is God. He lived a sinless life, healed the sick and raised the dead among many other miracles. He was and is our Perfect Example. But it is not in His life that we have our salvation but in His death, by His shed blood. However, Satan is also overcome by the word of their testimony. The power of the shed blood of Jesus Christ must be shared with others. But if our word and our deeds do not complement one another our words will be in vain. While Saints of old were willing to die for the testimony of the Faith, many today are not even willing to live a life of separation.

Verse 12, "Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time." The final message concerning the war in Heaven is also a warning for those upon the earth.

The reason Satan's coming down to earth is such a tragedy is

that he "deceiveth the whole world." How has he deceived the whole world? By at least three ways. First by making evil appear to be good. While it is true that he has great wrath, he will not often display this wrath but more often appears as an angel of light. This is found in false religions and "isms." The world for centuries has declared that all religions, and no religion at all, will lead to God if mankind only treats his fellowman right and does the best he or she can. Secondly, Satan has deceived the world by half truths, if there is such a thing. He tells the world that sin, not your personal sins, will bring judgment from God. He tells the world that outward appearance is not a sign of a right heart. Last of all he deceives the world by giving an alternative. If you do not like what the Bible teaches he will provide an easier way and make you feel comfortable with it. Sadly, Satan has not only deceived the world by these ways but also a large portion of the earthly church.

We apologize to any Brethren who may be offended by our handling of this portion of Scripture. We do not claim to have a good understanding of the book of Revelation or prophecy. However, we believe many lessons are lost because we refuse to make practical applications from the book of Revelation along with the rest of Scripture. In closing, may we make war with Satan and all his evil ways and not with one another.

Bro. James M. Hite
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Palmyra, PA 17078

SIXTY YEARS AGO

June 1, 1932

BE YE SEPARATE

Junias Spurgeon

There have been separations in our short lives of which we recall to our minds that have taken place. Some have had many such like experiences and others perhaps only a few. Some have had loved and dear ones leave for another country perhaps a few miles away with whom they can correspond and hear from in that way. While others have left to parts unknown and we never hear from. Some have near and dear ones that have left for the great beyond to spend an eternity where all is naught but sorrow, misery and torment untold forever and ever. Such separations as this we wish not to speak often about. For such are heartrending thought for the bravest hearts, I'm sure. If we only could speak the words and those loved ones could and would come forth how many would prolong the time, do you think? Not many, would they? Of a truth as the old adage puts it, "We never miss the water till the well goes dry."

There is another separation spoken of by Paul in II Cor. 6:14-18. "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore, come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." Dear fellow Christians, in the light of all of this, what is your duty and mine? What lesson does God wish to have us learn? God wishes us to know that there must be a separation from this world of sin. Not in the physical sense, for we cannot do that except we die. We dare not absolutely separate ourselves from going to and fro in this world to live the life of a hermit. But we must separate ourselves from the sinful methods, spirit and its aims. For an illustration: The world says that humanity is a rising race and that we are getting better all the time with each succeeding year. But the Holy Writ teaches us that we are a fallen race like the sheep of the parable. (Isaiah 53:6.) All we, like sheep have gone astray: we have turned everyone to his own way: not only going astray from God, but still farther and farther away, seeking the pleasures of this world that endureth for a short time, rather than the fellowship of the blessed Christ and His redeemed children that will last through the time of a never ending eternity. The world's remedy for this is education, more and better schools are insisted on. But God's remedy is regeneration. With this remedy and training our minds and hearts to do the will of God we are then growing better; unless we get this training and put it into use we have not really been born again. If we do not apply God's remedy we cannot expect to enter His kingdom to enjoy those blessings He has in store for his beloved children. (Matt. 7:21.) The world would have as an ideal before us that one great word, "civilization". God teaches in His Word the only ideal that can stand the test of His divine love is found in the word "transformation". A change of character after the likeness of His Son by putting away the filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. (II Cor. 7:1.) When we've done this and are thinking of spiritual things and try to do those things that are well pleasing unto God, not until then have we separated ourselves from the world. And when we've done this the results will be shown forth in our character and conduct. When we have thus separated ourselves from the world, we shall no longer be satisfied with those things the old devil put here for to take the place of the church that Christ Jesus suffered and spilt His own precious blood on Calvary for. Some of the things that

Satan, our adversary, would have us partake of and do so as to counteract the work of God is, make of the houses of God playhouses of entertainment instead of houses of instruction is righteousness; also, he has the lodges, clubs, social settlements, and open playgrounds, movies and such like. Neither will we have our minds centralized on how we can build up homes of luxury, pleasure and ease, and use the means of time and money that God has loaned to us for His glory, and for that which is not bread, and the sinful pleasures of this world that satisfieth not, when once we have had a true vision of ourselves like the Prophet Isaiah (Isa. 6:1-5), but we will cry out to God for mercy, asking Him to wash away our sins, and to take away our guilt. We shall then begin to help the church establish Bible classes to teach the true Word of God to aching hearts instead of mere sensational talks just to please those having itching ears; and to promote evangelism, and to give of our money to send the glad tidings of a loving Savior unto the uttermost parts of the world to those that know not of His redeeming love. And then only shall we begin to bear that witness for God and His Son, Jesus Christ, who shall at the last day deliver our souls and give to us the right to enter that heavenly city.

You are doubtful which way to decide.

Standing in fear where the pathways divide,

Praying for wisdom while making delay;

Jesus sends words to you; "I am the way"

Jesus sends words to you; yes, 'tis to you;

See! He is eager to carry you through!

None but Jesus can guide you aright,

He is your Savior, He is the light.

OUR SATURDAY NIGHT

Seeking Advice

J.H. Moore

When I located in the orange belt of Florida, in the eighties, I felt the need of some reliable information about orange culture. It was important that I should know what kind of trees to plant, when and how to plant them, and how to cultivate my grove. There were plenty of men to give free advice, and as a rule each one had some ideas wholly different from all the rest. I noticed that those who could do the most talking, and seemed to know more than anybody else, were only recently from the North.

All through life it had been my rule, when seeking information,

to go to those who had made a success of the business about which I wished to make inquiry. While I appreciated the kindness of the recent comers from the North, in their desire to inform me concerning the best way to raise an orange grove, I did not prize their knowledge very highly. So I drove out in the woods, seven miles, and interviewed a kind old gentleman who had lived in that part of the State for thirty years, and was then making money out of his fine orange grove. I saw that he was making a success of his business, and thought he would be the man from whom to secure information that could be relied upon. I whiled away many a pleasant and profitable hour from year to year in his grove and society.

This leads me to say that there is nothing like experience when it comes to giving information and advice that is of value. In my younger days, before I had any family of my own, I used to preach on how to raise a family. I had some fine theories, and had my earnest way of presenting them. I felt confident that my theories were correct, and thought it my duty to enlighten others, but I had no experience to relate. Well, years have gone by. I have raised a family of my own, and now I have considerable experience but no more theories. I do not do as much preaching along that line as I did when I knew less about it. I think that I have learned that two decades of experience in raising a family is worth a half dozen volumes of theories. Had your young minister gone to some father who had made a success of raising a family, for information, before delivering his sermons on the subject, he might have said something that would have been of special value to his hearers.

But how common it is for ministers, who have no children of their own, to tell other people how to raise their children! Some who have never raised even one child can preach by the hour on family government and kindred subjects. They have theories almost without number, and had they time they would like to write a book on a subject about which they know practically nothing.

Before Harriet Beecher Stowe became the mother of any children she wrote a most charming book on child training. The work had a large sale, and was widely read in all parts of the country. It gave the author quite a reputation as a writer along that particular line. One time Mrs. Stowe met a lady who had considerable difficulty in keeping her child quiet while waiting in the depot for her train. Mrs. Stowe was kind enough to tell the lady that if she would read her book on child culture it would prove very helpful to her in keeping her child quiet under such circumstances, and received this surprising answer from the tired mother: "Whenever you have some children of your own, then you may know how to write a book."

I do not mean to say that preachers who have no children of their own, and have never had any experience in raising a family,

should not preach on the subject of raising a Christian family, but they should bear in mind that a few words from men of experience along such lines are worth an hour spent in parading empty theories. Whenever I listen to a long sermon or essay on child training, or how to raise a family, by one who has never had any experience whatsoever, I cannot help thinking about the answer given to Mrs. Stowe in the depot.

NEWS ITEMS

THANK YOU

Thank you hardly seems sufficient to express our appreciation for the love and support that was felt during Shannon's hospital stay and since returning home. We truly enjoyed the cards, gifts, flowers and visits. Also there was much comfort, knowing there were many prayers on behalf of Shannon and our family. Our prayer would be that the Lord will bless each one richly. Shannon is improving each day and brings much happiness to see his strength returning.

Our many thanks
The James Eberly Family



The wife of a drunkard found her husband with torn clothes, matted hair, and bruised face, asleep in the room, having come home from a drunken revel. She sent for a photographer, and had a portrait of him taken in all his wretched appearance, and placed it on the mantel beside another portrait taken at the time of his marriage, which showed him handsome and well dressed. When he became sober he saw the two pictures and awakened to a consciousness of his condition, from which he arose to a better life. The office of the law is not to save men, but to show them their true state as compared with the Divine standard. It is like a glass, in which one seeth himself.

The acts of breathing which I performed yesterday will not keep me alive today; I must continue to breathe afresh every moment, or animal life ceases. In like manner, yesterday's grace and spiritual strength must be renewed, and the Holy Spirit must continue to breathe on my soul from moment to moment.

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BIBLE MONITOR

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

FAITH IS THE VICTORY

Encamped along the hills of light, Christian soldiers rise,
And press the battle ere the night, Shall veil the glowing skies;
Against the foe in vales below, Let all our strength be hurled;
Faith is the victory, we know, That overcomes the world.

His banner over us in love, Our sword the word of God;
We tread the road the saints above, With shouts of triumph trod;
By faith, they live a whirlwind's breath, Swept on o'er ev'ry field;
The faith by which they conquered death, Is still our shining shield.

On ev'ry hand the foe will find, Drawn up in dread array;
Let tents of ease be left behind, And onward to the fray;
Salvation's helmet on each head, With truth all girt about,
The earth shall tremble 'neath our tread, And echo with our shout.

To Him that overcomes the foe, White raiment shall be giv'n;
Before the angels he shall know, His name confessed in heav'n;
Then onward from the hills of light, Our hearts with love aflame;
We'll vanquish all the hosts of night, In Jesus' conquering name.

John H. Yates

DAILY CHOICES

"Choose you this day whom ye will serve..." Joshua 24:15b.

There are many important choices we each must make. We must choose our occupation or profession. We need to choose the one who will be our life's companion. Although we seek God's will in this choice, we still have to make the final decision. He is there to guide us, but not to force us. We have been given a will and He expects us to exercise it.

These choices will affect our lives in this world, but our choice concerning Jesus Christ will affect our eternal destiny and well-being. There is no way that our lives can please God or gain future rewards, if that greatest of all choices has not been made. We must invite Jesus Christ to become the Saviour and Lord of our lives.

Once that new relationship with God has been established through Jesus Christ, all decisions and activities must be the result of the direction and empowering that comes through the Holy Ghost. The life to be lived in conformity with God's will is not something left wholly to the responsibility of the believer. He has the direction and the power of the Holy Spirit within to lead him in the ways that will be pleasing to God and will produce works that are good and fruitful.

The power is there. The direction is there. It can be done. But all too often the decision to do so is lacking. Although the major one-time decision has been made, there is the danger that the day by day decisions that will carry out that life-changing decision will not be made.

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Each of us is responsible for how we invest our lives. If we unwisely invest our lives, we may risk more than we are willing to pay. All areas of our lives are part of our lives' investment. If we are attentive to the direction of God's Spirit, the way we use our time, talents, resources and personalities will contribute to the Spiritual well-being of ourselves, others and the Church.

What are some of the resources available to Christians so they can accomplish all these important tasks? The Bible, prayer, faith, the armor of God and commitment are among the resources available to us.

The Bible is the will of God in a written, understandable form. Through God's message to His people, all can know what needs to be known. He does not set us upon our journey through the Christian life without guideposts for us to follow. Those guideposts are there, but we must invest time and effort to study them, so we have a good understanding of them. We must also make the daily decisions based upon what we do know. Our problem is not that we are unable to know what God would have us to do. Our problem is making the conscious decisions to implement in our lives what we do know. The Word of God is very available and open to us, but we must study and apply it.

Prayer is our communication with God. By His Spirit within us, we are able to speak with our Heavenly Father and He can speak to us, often pointing us to the pertinent part of His Word. He will never direct us by His Spirit to do anything that is contrary to what is revealed in His Word.

As a child of God, we must have childlike faith in God. We must be as simple and believing as David. When he faced Goliath, he could only do so in the power that God would give him. That faith-bidden power was greater than the weapons, armor and shield of Goliath. Can we in our daily lives demonstrate a similar power? Although our Goliaths may seem huge and overpowering, they cannot be so overwhelming as the giant David faced. David needed only a little stone to bring down Goliath; we need a little faith to bring down our Goliaths.

God has provided an armor to protect us in the evil times in which we live. We must make the conscious effort to put on those various pieces of protection. If we do not use the protection given us, we are going to be as lambs before the wolves – defenseless, unnecessarily.

The good soldier is not entangled with the affairs of the everyday world, he must give his undivided attention to his duty. There is a need for a daily commitment, which means daily decisions must be made concerning the situations that arise in a way consistent with what has been learned from His Word, gained from prayerful communication, accomplished with a little faith and hidden within His protective armor.

Have you made the decision to be His child? If so, are you making your daily choices based on that decision? Does your daily life reflect what God has done for you and what He wants you to do for Him? What have you chosen this day?

IMMORALITY

Part 2

Part one gave a general overview of Immorality as it abounds world wide, referring particularly to Denmark and Sweden, two countries that public writers and news correspondents say are examples of how far people will go when the halter of the law is done away with.

I referred to and stated that any nation that does not enforce moral laws will become an immoral nation.

AMERICA, BE ON YOUR GUARD. YOU ARE SLIPPING FROM THE SPIRITUAL LIFE TO A LIFE OF IMMORALITY. BE ON YOUR GUARD!

In our local, daily paper in Canton, Ohio, "THE REPOSITORY" under dateline April 24, 1992 were the following head lines of a news item:

RAPE STATISTICS ARE MUCH HIGHER A STUDY FINDS
The author of the news item, Mr. Dean Kilpatrick, was the author and research director of this study and survey. I am going to copy the item here, word for word:

"WASHINGTON, D.C.

A government funded study released Thursday, April 23, 1992, found 683,000 women who were raped in 1990... a far greater number than other government reports have stated... and that 12.1 million women have been rape victims at least once.

In addition, the National Women's study said almost 62% of the rape victims said they were attacked when they were minors, with about 29% saying they were younger than eleven.

Rape does seem to be a tragedy in America, stated Mr. Kilpatrick, director and co-author of the report referred to.

The study funded by the National institute on drug abuse, involved female interviewers talking to over 4,000 women by telephone about rapes in the previous year and earlier.

The survey found that of the estimated 12.1 million women who have been raped about 6.8 million were raped once, 4.7 million were raped more than once and about 600,000 were unsure of the number of times.

Twenty-nine percent of the perpetrators were non-relatives, known by the victim, such as neighbors and friends. Twenty-two

percent were strangers. Sixteen percent were relatives, other than the immediate family. Eleven percent of the guilty were fathers and grandfathers. Ten percent were boy friends or ex-boyfriends. Nine percent were husbands or ex-husbands. Three percent were not sure or refused to answer.

Seventy percent of rape victims were unharmed. Twenty-four percent suffered minor injuries. Four percent were seriously hurt. The survey did not count for rape-murder victims.

The study's estimate of 683,000 forcible rapes in 1990, based on an estimate of 0.7 percent of the adult female population, was more than five times larger than the National Crime Survey figure of 130,000 attempted and completed rapes. It is estimated that no more than 16% of the rape victims tell the police.

The National Victim Center and the crimes Victims Research and Treatment Center and the Medical University of South Carolina, who released the study, urged states to adopt laws to keep victims' names confidential. They decried the naming of complainants in the recent trials of William Kennedy Smith and Mike Tyson." (End of Repository News Item).

In a National Publication this statement appeared. Throughout the Colleges in the United States, fifty (50) percent of the female students are non-virgins.

Because of the huge number of acts of promiscuity today, the following are just an inkling of the results of this type of immorality.

Thousands of unwanted babies born.

More thousands being aborted.

Venereal Diseases on the increase.

Slow, lingering, painful death from AIDS.

Divorces due to infidelity

Homeless children.

Heartaches and despair often leading to suicide.

The list of minor effects is almost endless. God is a God of love. It was not His intent, that man has used this to bring about so much despair, suffering and death. God intended it to bind husbands and wives in love and procreation.

Having fore-knowledge of man, He gave plenty of warning about this type of immorality and its punishment. Here I will list some of the scriptures that fore-tells the punishment that will be meted out to those guilty of this immorality.

Before I list the following scriptures that warn of punishment, I want to give a few warnings about what will happen if one is guilty of sexual immorality, and does not repent.

Hebrews 13:4, "Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God WILL JUDGE."

Romans 2:12, "For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law."

Galatians 5:19, Here adultery and fornication are listed in a category that Paul states SHALL NOT ENTER THE KINGDOM.

I Corinthians 7:2, "Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man HAVE HIS OWN WIFE, AND LET EVERY WOMAN HAVE HER OWN HUSBAND."

DEAR READER: Think of the millions of men and women who are living together unmarried. They MUST separate and ask in sincerity to be forgiven and show definite signs of repentance or they will face God's wrath and meet with His punishment.

Jesus in Luke DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY. (That is a warning).

Jesus tells us in part of Revelation 2:20 that Jezebel caused men to commit fornication and in verse 21, "And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not." Verse 22, "Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into GREAT TRIBULATION, except they REPENT of their deeds."

GOD GAVE FAIR WARNING.

I wish to refer to several more scriptures dealing with immorality.

James 4:4, "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."

I Corinthians 6:18, "Flee fornication..."

Matthew 19:9, Jesus speaking, "And I say unto you, whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery."

Sexual immorality is increasing by leaps and bounds. It has been estimated that the attendance at crack houses, massage parlors, game halls (which are often disguised as such, but are houses of immorality), topless bars, places advertised as planned childlessness, houses of ill fame of all kinds approaches and nearly matches Church attendance.

Much of this sin transpires at night, because THEIR DEEDS ARE EVIL.

The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, lust of men to men, the lust of men for women and women for men (not their spouses) unless repented of will end in Spiritual death and often natural

death. James 1:15, "Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."

This article is lengthy, but much, much more could be written and supported by scripture.

I will close this article with a few scriptures, that if read, lived and obeyed will be the means of a cleaner, more Spiritual life. It is a joy to live that way because it pleases our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

I Peter 3:11 teaches that we are to eschew (to shun or avoid) evil, and do good.

I Peter 2:17, "Honour all men. LOVE THE BROTHERHOOD. Fear God. Honour the king."

James 1:22, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, DECEIVING YOUR OWN SELVES."

James 4:8, "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you..."

I Corinthians 4:2, "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful."

II Timothy 2:15, "Study (the Bible) to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

May the God of Heaven BLESS EVERY READER.

Brother Paul R. Myers
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ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"Jesus, who?" Part III

We have previously established that the deity of Jesus was confirmed by Jesus Himself, by the disciples, by the virgin birth. There are other factors that also establish this truth and we will cover these in this issue.

Jesus' deity was established in His masterly teaching. If you look into John 7, you will see the jealous Pharisees and chief priests sending their officers to take Him and catch Him up. These men stood and listened. They heard the words of wisdom which fell from His lips and they returned without Him. The Pharisees and Priests were upset and cried out, "Where is He? Why didn't you bring Him?" The officers replied, "NEVER MAN SO SPAKE." They were awe stricken by the Saviour. They had never heard anyone speak as He spoke. They heard words of wisdom as those which fell from His lips and they were utterly impressed. What was the source of these wonderful teachings? Was the source just some carpenter from Nazareth? Of course not. That

would have been demeaning to these learned men. Everything that is superior in literature, in art, in morality and in life itself is based directly on the teaching of the Man from Nazareth. And... these teachings came directly from the Father.

Great and masterly teachings! Teachings never to be surpassed. The teachings of the Man from Nazareth declares His divine Sonship.

The mighty works claim the deity of Jesus. I heard a statement once that I would like to share with you here. Speaking of Jesus, it was said, "His life being a miracle, it would have been a miracle if He had not performed miracles." How true this statement is. Here is the One who had all power over the laws of nature. He could take a few loaves and fishes, bless them and feed five thousand men, plus the women and children. He could stand in a little fishing boat and say to the stormy waters, "Peace be still," and could calm the tempest. He could come to His disciples walking on the water, defying all the laws of physics. He who made the laws of nature is our Master.

Jesus was the One who had all power over the laws of disease. He could speak and the deaf would hear. He could touch the sightless and their eyes would open in sight. He could reach out His hand to the incurable leper and the leper would feel his wasted body become clean once again through the action of a powerful, purifying Son of God.

Jesus has power over the law of death. He could take the daughter of Jairus and restore her to health. He could stand before the tomb of a special friend named Lazarus and shout out, "Lazarus, come forth", and Lazarus would live again. Imagine a once dead man walking from his grave wrapped in grave clothes. He halted the funeral procession at the gates of Nain and restored the dead son of a widowed mother in one beautiful story.

Yes... Jesus had power over nature... power over sickness... power over death. His wonderful and mighty works declare Him to be the Son of God.

The victorious death of Jesus proclaimed His deity. His life was not taken... instead it was given. He prophesied His own death and then walked directly toward it... understanding its significance. He died in such a way that the people who were at the site... even those who were not believers... would say, "Truly, this was the Son of God."

There is no better attested fact in history than the resurrection of Jesus from the cold, dark tomb and this claims His deity. The resurrection is the counterpart to the virgin birth. His whole life's story is very much a total unit... virgin birth, sinless character, miracle working life, redemptive death, resurrection and ascension. They make up the total picture that shows Christ's deity.

Finally, and perhaps the most powerful evidence of Christ's deity, is the present power He has in our modern world of the 1900's. For nineteen centuries He has been turned loose in the world and He continues to transport lives of sinful man into saints. He can still take sordid, black lives and refine them until they stand before Him radiant in their purity and beauty. This is the greatest of miracles and a current testimony of His deity.

No matter how rough you have been, no matter how much of a drunkard, no matter how immoral and totally debased, Jesus can transform you into a useful citizen of the Kingdom of Heaven. His transforming power is as real today as it has ever been.

"He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.

He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.

This is the message. Jesus is deity... He is the Son of God. He saves.

Brother Len Wertz

SIXTY YEARS AGO

June 15, 1932

SHALL WE CHANGE?

Elwyn Speaker

Yes and no.

We will consider the second answer first.

That which the Dunkard Brethren Church insists upon is complete obedience to the written Word, as given to us in the New Testament. The Word does not change. (Rev. 22:18-19) Our methods of obedience may change, but that venture requires much care and prayer. "Remove not the ancient landmarks which thy fathers have set." When any change is contemplated we might well ask: will this change help us, as a church, to be more holy, more consecrated, more like God? If tomorrow was the last day of the world, and we knew it, would we make the change?

Some would have had our Lady say something like this: "I have now made the great sacrifice and started the church. Of course, as time goes on and the world becomes more educated and more progressive, there will have to be various changes made in the church to keep the thing going and up-to-date."

If our Lord had spoken in that way our experience now would be like the men "which built his house upon the sand." Man desires, longs for, something permanent. God is always the same.

"I change not." Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today, and forever." "... the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." God's natural laws and God's written Word are permanent. If changeable, the result would be chaotic. Time is just the same now as it was ages ago, to the very minute. Man sometimes changes his calendar to catch up. "I am the Lord. I change not"; and this will be especially true in this, the last dispensation.

How about the church? It was established by the Father, through the Son, the Holy Spirit and the apostles. Hence it was certainly right. Can we improve upon it? We surely cannot. When anything is right we cannot make it more right. Any change from the original would take from its perfection.

As we view the many, many different churches of today, the question arises: Which is the original church? The natural answer would be: "The oldest denomination." That answer, for a number of reasons, does not prove to be true. We would say that the true church now is the one that conforms to the original pattern. What was the original pattern? The original pattern was a church that rendered complete obedience to God's Word. The Dunkard Brethren come nearer doing that than any church I know of. Would the changes you may have in mind draw us nearer that first ideal? We do not need to error, as we have many examples set before us. The multitudes of churches which have tested the plan of omitting, taking away, adding to and changing the teachings of the Book nearly all admit that they do not have the spirituality they once had.

As to admitting changes in the Dunkard Brethren Church the answer can almost invariably be, "_o_."

But we said at the beginning that we should change. How! Our change should be toward a closer walk with God – more love, more consecration, more purity of heart. God is pure and holy. He does not change; doesn't need to. We do not want God to change. Satan was once an angel of light, but he changed and the change has proved to be terrific. If we are in close communion with God and obeying His Word perfectly we must not change to some other way. When a man is born again, his heart cleansed from all sin, he only needs to continue upward in that straight and narrow way. A change only means a downward step.

The only time man or the church needs to change is when they are out of harmony with God as revealed in His Word.

"But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ." (II Peter 3:18). We cannot do this by explaining the Word away or setting it aside.

LET BROTHERLY LOVE CONTINUE

(Hebrews 13:1)

Psalms 133:1, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

Titus 3:3-4. "For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared."

Satan is determined to make the Church a cold, lifeless organization that has no power. If he can destroy the love we have for one another he has accomplished his purpose to a large degree. Satan has already introduced a false type of love that has caused the church on earth to lose much of its power through compromise. Now he is in the process of causing divisions among the people of God who desire to follow the truth of Scripture.

One of the areas that Satan has used to destroy brotherly love is the question as to how works fit into our salvation. Paul makes it very clear to Titus, and to us, that it is "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life." When we look upon ourselves as more righteous than another brother we start to lose that brotherly love that is so important. But Paul does not end there. He goes on to say, "This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men." Then in Titus 3:14 he states, "And let ours also learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful." In John 15:5-6 the Lord Jesus Christ instructs us, "I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned."

We believe, according to the Word of God, that our very salvation depends upon our obedience, often referred to as good works. A lack of obedience will also destroy brotherly love. Let us examine ourselves in the light of Titus 3:3-4. Are we foolish? Paul advises us in verse 9 of this chapter, "But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain." How many of our dis-

agreements come from the Old Testament? Paul says such disagreements are vain. Yet much love is lost because of the fact that we desire to be a New Testament Church. Are we disobedient? Obedience used to be the strength of the Plain churches that bound their members together in love. Today obedience is the source of much contention. Are we deceived? We are persuaded that much of the lack of brotherly love among us is due to outside influence. Those that desire to continue in the footsteps of our forefathers are labeled legalists by others and true brotherly love is broken. The question must be faced. Were our Brethren forefathers like the Mormons and other false cults? Were the things they taught merely the thoughts of man or the wisdom of God? We believe that many have been deceived into believing that we are now in a new age and new ideas must be brought forth. The idea that things we once practiced are not only not needful but were merely traditions of men may well lead us to a point where we are deceived into believing we can look like the world and still be faithful Christians.

Are we serving divers lusts and pleasures? After the plain clothing is cast off it is usually followed by accepting worldly lusts and pleasures. Immodest clothing is accepted while the modest clothing worn by our ancestors is ridiculed. The important issue then becomes "what is modest?" And Satan has a hey-day with the results!

Sports, the god of this age, is the cause of much discussion. Most of us have more desire for "having fun" than enjoying the things of the Lord.

Are we living in malice and envy? As we have heard said, "More Christians 'prey' on one another than 'pray' for one another." Are we hateful? Do we insist that everything must always go our way? Are we hating one another? Is Paul telling us that the former things lead to this?

Do we truly have the kindness and love of God our Savior toward man? Do we have the mercy towards others that Christ has shown unto us? Do we truly have the washing of regeneration? Has our baptism brought with it a love for the Brethren? Do we have a renewing of the Holy Ghost? Is our desire to love God and our fellow brethren shown in our lives?

We believe that God desires that we "let brotherly love continue." We do not believe He is pleased with the lack of love shown in the lives of many. Let us each search our hearts and determine if we truly have the love of Christ within our hearts. God does not desire compromise and true love does not demand it. But true love does require that we set aside and are willing to listen to what others have to say. Brotherly love will build the

Church, perhaps not in numbers but in strength. A lack of it will destroy a community of believers.

Brother James M. Hite
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WOULD YOU LIKE TO TEACH A BIBLE CLASS?

Matthew 19:14, "But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

I Timothy 1:6-7, "From which some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling; Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm."

Have you ever been asked the question, "Would you like to teach a Bible class?" What was your reply?

This is something that many are asked and various answers are given. Being a Bible class teacher is not something that should be taken lightly. It is a very serious undertaking. A Bible class teacher is helping to mold the future of our church. When teachers are in their classes, they are responsible for the instruction of our children. A teacher that studies the lesson, and is prepared will be setting the example of how serious and important the Word of God is.

Teaching is also very rewarding. The love that children give is a special blessing. To be able to reach out to children from different walks of life and share God's love is something wonderful. Each child is special in his own way. Teaching a child how much God loves us and how He cares for us will help them as they grow physically and spiritually.

In Titus 2:7-8 Paul speaks about teaching what is good, and this applies to teaching all age groups, not just children. "In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you."

The children of today are the church of tomorrow. Among the little freckled faces and skinned knees of our boys, we have the future deacons, song leaders, elders, preachers and teachers. Our little girls will someday be mothers and teachers. They will be the wives of our church leaders and preachers. It is so important to teach them and give them the guidance they need. Our young children and teenagers are facing so many problems

today that can lead them astray. We need to teach our children about following Jesus and staying with Him.

A teacher has the responsibility of setting the right example for children. They will not only see you at church but away from it also. You need to be aware of where you might be guiding a child when he sees you somewhere other than Bible class.

We want to teach our children about our Heavenly Father. They need to study God's Word. As children grow they need to be aware of how the Bible can be the foundation of their life. Children face a lot of peer-pressure once they start school. By giving them a strong Christian foundation, it will help them to choose the right path to follow.

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TRUST IN GOD AND DO THE RIGHT

Courage, brother, do not stumble,
Though thy path be dark as night;
There's a star to guide the humble –
Trust in God and the right.
Though the road be long and dreary,
And the end be out of sight;
Foot it bravely, strong or weary –
Trust in God and do the right.

Perish "policy" and cunning,
Perish all that fears the light;
Whether losing, whether winning,
Trust in God and do the right.
Shun all forms of guilty passion,
Friends can look like angels bright;
Heed no custom, school, or fashion –
Trust in God and do the right.

Some will hate thee, some will love thee,
Some will flatter, some will slight;
Cease from man and look above thee,
Trust in God and do the right.
Simple rule and safest guiding –
Inward peace and shining light –
Star upon our path abiding –
Trust in God and Do The Right.

- Norman Macleod

NEWS ITEMS

HART, MICHIGAN

Revival Meetings will be held at Hart, Michigan July 12 through 19 with Communion Service, July 18. Services will begin at 11:00 on July 18. The evangelist will be Bro. Fred Pifer. Please come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Beverly St. John, Cor.

GOSHEN, INDIANA

Lord willing, Bro. Paul Hartz from Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania will hold a week's revival July 19 through 26. Harvest Meeting will be on July 26. Evening services will start at 7:30. We invite all who can to come and worship with us. Your prayers are greatly appreciated.

Sister Becky Stalter, Cor.

BROADWATER CHAPEL, MARYLAND

The Lord willing Broadwater Chapel will be holding a four day revival this year. Beginning the 30th day of July and ending Sunday, August 2. Bro. Gene Kauffman of the Dayton Congregation will be our speaker. Come and enjoy these meetings with us. Continue praying for our small congregation.

Sister Lavona Sines, Cor.

Dunkard Brethren Cookbook

FAVORITE RECIPES FROM DUNKARD KITCHENS is available for purchase. Due to the Brotherhood-wide response to our request for your favorite recipes, the cookbook is larger than first anticipated, therefore the price is \$10.50 each, plus \$1.75 for postage and shipping.

You may order your copy from:

Sister Nancy Marks

Rt. 1 Box 296

Hart, Michigan 49420

Telephone: 616-873-2113

We wish to thank each of you personally for contributing to this cookbook.

May the Lord bless and keep you in His care.

Sister Nancy Marks

Sister Sharon McCann

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JULY 1992

July 5 - Elijah Flees from Jezebel - I Kings 19:1-21.

1. What caused Elijah to turn from boldness to panic?
2. Are we listening for the "still small voice"?

July 12 - Ahab Defeats Ben Hadad - I Kings 20:1-43.

1. Who gave Israel the victory? verse 13, 18.
2. What contributed to Ben Hadad's defeat? verse 16.

July 19 - Naboth's Vineyard - I Kings 21:1-20 (I Kings 21:21-29).

1. What character qualities did Naboth demonstrate?
2. List the character deficiencies of Ahab and Jezebel.

July 26 - Ahab and Jehoshaphat - I Kings 22:1-53.

1. Why was there disagreement between the prophets?
2. What prophecy was fulfilled in verse 38?

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JULY 1992

July 5 - Daily Devotions - Gen. 28:17-22, I Sam. 1:19, Job 1:5,
Luke 2:37, Acts 10:1-4.

1. What promise is given to those that seek the Lord first?
Matt. 6:33.
2. Define devotion. What does it include?

July 12 - Are we Indifferent - Isaiah 47:8-11, Matt. 22:1-14.

1. What are the symptoms of indifference?
2. What is the cure for indifference?

July 19 - Examples - Lev. 20:22-26, John 13:15, I Tim. 4:10-16,
I Pet. 2:18-25.

1. Why are examples so important?
2. Whose example are you following?

July 26 - Our Expectations - Ps. 62:1-12, Phil. 1:20-30.

1. How can expectations be a blessing or a curse?
2. Who should we give our expectations to? Psalms 62:5.

Paul Stump
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BIBLE MONITOR

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JULY 1, 1992

NO. 13

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

MY DROWSY POWERS

My drowsy pow'rs, why sleep ye so?
Awake, my sluggish soul!
Nothing has half thy work to do,
Yet nothing's half so dull.

The little ants, for one poor grain,
Labor, and tug, and strive;
Yet we who have a crown to gain, -
How negligent we live!

We, for whom God's own Son came down
And labored for our good;
How careless to secure that crown
He purchased with his blood!

Lord, shall we lie so sluggish still,
And never act our parts?
Come, holy Dove, our spirits fill,
And warm our frozen hearts.

Then shall our active spirits move,
Upward our souls shall rise:
With hands of faith and wings of love
We'll fly and take the prize.

-Isaac Watts

UP AND DOING

The Dunkard Brethren have lately enjoyed another General Conference. Under the smiles of a kind Heavenly Father, members and friends were permitted to come together for a few days. Some had traveled far; others had only a few miles to go, but all were assembled together in this annual conclave.

General Conference offers a wonderful time for the Brethren to gather so they can enjoy a time of fellowship. This is important and enjoyable, since most are scattered across this land. Often their home congregations are not large, so to be with a larger group of believers who are contending for the like precious faith is an encouragement for each one. Conference provides a time for worship. Daily activities often cause us to hurry through our days without appropriating enough time for the worship of God, through reading and studying God's Word, singing and prayer. At Conference the pressing business of daily living can be more completely shut out, so more time is devoted to praise and adoration of our Heavenly Father.

The focal point of this Conference was the preaching of the Word. This preaching pointed the minds of those in attendance upwards towards God. It also brought everyone together in one place to enjoy their mutual benefits and shared opportunities as Christians. The preaching also helped to focus minds upon the proper answers to questions of polity and policy that would come before the business session of the Conference.

The preaching, though delivered by Brethren from various parts of the Brotherhood, was united in its presentation of the Word of

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God as the basis of the work that the Church should be pursuing. The messages were of one mind, though spoken by many voices. That message was that the Church must be up and doing. She must not allow the enemy to snare souls through default.

As the days seem so darkly evil and good seems so little appreciated, it would be easy to be discouraged and to think that a small band of believers could accomplish very little, but the preaching at this Conference certainly called for the active participation of all that greater deeds could be done. The work given to the Church by the Master must be pursued, especially in times like these. Those declaring His Word have brought to all the responsibility that has been given to each believer. For the Church to accomplish its task, each member must be up and doing. Each must take responsibility for his own life, that it would conform to the pattern given in God's Word. Each must be busy in carrying out the task, he has been given. God has given talents to each one, consistent with what He would have done. By providing the strength, understanding and talents to accomplish the task, God equips His people to do the work.

The Conference preaching proclaimed the Word through various mouths and scriptures brought before the minds and ears of the hearers. The teachings concerning the plan of Salvation and Christian living were presented. It was declared how necessary it is to not only accept the proffered new relationship with God, but also of continuing to live a life consistent with that relationship. The work of sharing the possibility of that new relationship with others was strongly presented.

The gathering of converts is not a separate area of work and activity. The sharing of the Gospel is a part of the total Christian life and can not be accomplished unless those who already enjoy its benefits live as those who have come into a new and better relationship with God. If the lives of Christians are not consistent, how will the unconverted see what God can do to change lives and be convinced and convicted within their hearts about the needs of their own lives?

We have heard these truths many times throughout our years of sitting under the sound of the Gospel. Now is the time when what we have heard needs to be implemented in our lives. Not only do we need to live as we have been instructed, but we need to tie our lives to the message that we wish to convey to that portion of the world that we are a part of. This requires that we be up and doing.

General Conference is a mountain top experience. We all wish we would not have to leave, when closing time comes, but we must. God does not want us to remain permanently upon those grounds, He wants us back home putting into practice what we have heard while at Conference.

Whether you were at this recent Conference or not, you have a great responsibility given you by God. You must be up and doing to carry it out.

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Big Boys DO Cry!

One of the most harmful childhood mottos that I can think of today is "Big boys don't cry." This is a typical statement from a misdirected culture that does not understand sensitivity nor does it have a relationship with Jesus Christ. It has impaired many men and has wrecked countless marriages. Our society actually emphasizes sports and other activities that infers if one expresses emotions, he is weak.

Many men have had this deadly childhood motto so woven into their lives that they are unable to express their real feelings. If feelings do surface, they don't know how to handle them. They become ashamed or afraid of being considered weak. In the adult Christian life, it has been translated into..."a good Christian doesn't express their true feelings."

The best counter we have to this destructive attitude is obtained by observing the One who is our perfect example...Jesus Christ. In Him, we see feelings and the expression of them shown in their fullest.

I praise God that Jesus was like us. He was human in regard to His emotions and He was not affected by the macho men of His day. He was a real "Christian He-man." We would desire to be as He was. Jesus was not stone faced and expressionless nor was he stoic and unemotional. He was not afraid to express His emotions and not ashamed of tears and showing that He cared.

Grief over the death of someone you love is one of the strongest emotions that you can experience. How did Jesus handle grief and sorrow? There are two incidents which give us a clue. The first is Jesus' reaction when they brought Him the news that John the Baptist had been beheaded. He withdrew Himself. This was a natural way to respond to sorrow. He withdrew for a while and then came back into the company of those whom He loved the most. He withdrew...but not for too long. If you grieve too long by yourself, you tend to lose your sense of balance and perspective. You might well find that you are grieving not over someone you have lost, but for yourself. Jesus also continued to do the things He loved to do the most...helping, healing and feeding others. This was healing therapy in the midst of His sorrow.

A second incident shows Jesus at the tomb of Lazarus. He wept! We can praise the Lord for this verse, John 11:35, that confirms, "Jesus wept." This verse has a profound meaning...more than that of helping Sunday School children who need a quick verse to recite. Jesus cried and He wasn't ashamed

to admit His sorrow and express it openly. Then He prayed. You need never to be ashamed of weeping or withdrawing for a time, or getting help from your closest friends or praying. This is the right way...the Christian way...to handle sorrow. Big boys DO cry!

Another emotion we sometimes have to deal with is anger. The Bible speaks approximately three hundred sixty five times about the anger of God. This anger was NOT an outburst of childish temper or rage, but was holy in nature. Remember this...anger itself is not a sinful emotion but the misuse of the emotion of anger is sin. I would suggest that not to feel an holy anger at certain times is not to have enthusiasm for good. If you are never angry at wrong and with sin, you probably do not love righteousness enough. There needs to be anger for sin and sorrow for those who have committed it. I am sure that you can see that this kind of passion for right might well bring tears of sorrow at times. A temper that is cleansed and under the Spirit's control is one that can be redirected to that which makes God angry.

A troubled spirit often brings tears. We see this happening to Jesus as He struggled in the Garden. This was a complex struggle. There was even loneliness in it. His friends had failed Him and had slept through His most trying hour. He was alone and hurting.

It was another time of temptation for Jesus. The devil was there to try to turn His anguishing spirit and despair into evil victory. This caused Jesus profuse sweating...as it were, great drops of blood.

We have not experienced Jesus' great struggle...but we have been shaken and hurt by the conflicts of sin and temptations in our lives. And these are times we need to cry out and ask God for victory. These tears of concern will not flow forth unrewarded.

Of course we understand that there are tears of happiness. These sometimes flow freely and indicate a sensitive and loving nature in an individual. They are appropriate and are the right response during these happy occasions.

Jesus was perfect and He clearly understood a principle that modern day psychologists have recently discovered. Emotions, which can be expressed freely, will help release frustrations that could come back later in life to haunt us as delayed reactions. Big boys DO cry. It is a part of maturity and a part of wholeness. It is a part of humanness! The more holy you become, the more human you become and the more you emulate Jesus. Allow yourself the freedom to express appropriate emotions in free-flowing tears of love. Allow yourself to experience the warmth of concern that is communicated in caring enough to show it. You are not a part of God's "frozen chosen." You are a part of His passionate Body.

Brother Len Wertz

IS THERE SUCH A THING AS REAL CHRISTIANITY?

In Joshua 1:9 we read, "...Be strong and of a good courage;..." He was encouraging Christians to press on and not give up their profession.

I do not mean to criticize any one in the course of this article. Of what passes today as Christianity, the Apostle Paul would say, "O, ye of little faith." FAITH is a prerequisite of Christianity. "...Without faith it is impossible to please him (God):..." Hebrews 11:6.

Acts 11:26, "...And the disciples were called CHRISTIANS first in Antioch." Why? Because they followed the teaching of Christ, which is another prerequisite for being a Christian.

In Acts 4:13, "Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John,...they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus." Christians are to come out from the world and be a separate (identifiable) people, not conformed to this world, but transformed by the renewing of their minds. If we love the world and love worldly things, the love of God is not in us.

A Christian will not be a drinker, smoker, gambler or a user of profanity or carry gossip or tell a lie. Neither will he stoop to false witnessing.

A damsel came to Peter, saying, "Thou also was with Jesus." Also others said, "Surely thou art one of them for thy speech betrayeth thee." The evidence was so out-standing in Peter that he could not deny he was a follower of Jesus.

THERE IS SUCH A THING AS CHRISTIANITY. A minority of the human race make a profession of Christianity and are doing their best to live acceptably for Jesus Christ.

One can tell from a person's speech, interests, manner of dress, and so forth, if he is living a Christian life. One great problem today, is the fact that the majority of people are too full of pride to allow themselves to be fully converted, and manifest it before the public. That is a poor example of a Christian and such witnessing discourages those that are pondering a change in their lives.

There are a plenty of unbelievers and agnostics working against Christianity. There are plenty of critics, also. One of the harshest perhaps was Frederick Nietzsche. He lived in the nineteenth century. His motive was to undermine the Christian morality. A classic example of what he advocated was, "THE LAST CHRISTIAN DIED UPON THE CROSS." He viewed Christianity as a shallow, anemic light that should be eliminated. In his mind "Christian" was just another name for "weakness" and weaklings were not able to contribute to the progress of mankind.

He based some of his wrong thinking on the statement of Jesus, when he said, "All power is given me in Heaven and in earth." If Jesus was so powerful why did He not come down from the cross? The answer is simple to a believer. He said, "I came not to do my own will, but the will of the Father who sent me." The Father's will was not to come down from the cross, but for Jesus to die on the cross and bear your sins and mine.

This decade has provided plenty of criticisms. That Jesus was not divine, that He was not the Son of God, that He was a hippy, that He was just a human being like other men, with nothing to offer but what other men could offer, are just the tip of the iceberg of the many things the critics have accused Jesus of. IF HE BE THE SON OF GOD, LET HIM COME DOWN FROM THE CROSS is a shining example.

One writer goes so far as to state that relatively few people have been REBORN as required in ACT 2:38. There is a good possibility that he is correct. Many people have heard the message of salvation, but have not accepted it.

Countless numbers of people world wide have, as yet, never heard the Gospel. While these last few lines may strengthen Frederick Nietzsche's argument, there is definitely a positive side that proves him wrong.

He emphasizes that Jesus died on the cross. He never mentioned that He rose again and lives again. He does not mention the followers of Christ as being a Christian, BUT they are if they continue in the faith. By his own statement, He WAS NOT a Christian.

Let's search the Bible for a few illustrations of a Christian or Christians.

The disciples were first called Christians at Antioch.

When Paul and Silas were imprisoned and had opportunity to escape they did not. They evidenced such good behavior that when the jailor freed them, He asked, "What must I do to be saved? (To be a Christian.)"

Acts 26:28, "The Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."

I Peter 4:16, "Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf." THERE ARE MANY MORE REFERENCES TO CHRISTIANS IN GOD'S HOLY WORD.

In conclusion, do not let any one deceive you that there are no Christians. The Bible states that they are the salt of the earth, the PRESERVING power. There are a sufficient number of Christians that God has let time continue. It behoves each professed Christian to live as a true Christian example.

Brother Paul R. Myers
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GROWING PAINS

Psalm 92:12, "The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon."

Ephesians 4:13-15, "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive: But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ."

While their natural bodies mature, many individuals experience what is known as growing pains. While the experience may not be pleasant, it is a sign that the body is growing as it should. The earthly church has also experienced spiritual growing pains. The desire for numerical growth has brought with it the pain of misunderstandings and divisions.

There is nothing wrong with the desire to grow numerically. "The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree:" The leaf of the palm tree is a symbol of victory or triumph. Proverbs 11:30 puts it this way, "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise."

But we must remember also "he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon." We must have spiritual growth so we can be strong in the Lord along with the numerical growth.

There are several myths that have accompanied the church growth movement that we would like to examine. We believe these myths have added to the growing pains in the church. The first of these is the myth that the greatest concern of the first century church was growth. It is true that the book of Acts records large numbers being added to the church. And we are not suggesting that the book of Acts is not for our use today, as some teach. However, the Book of Acts can not be rightly understood without examining the books of the Bible written by those, God used in the Book of Acts. Here we find not an emphasis on numerical growth but an emphasis on the need of church purity and personal holiness.

Closely related to this is the myth that large numbers are a sign of spiritual maturity. Some of the fastest growing religious organizations are the cults. We, personally, believe that we are living in a day when II Thessalonians 2:3 is more of a reality than ever before in history. "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away (Greek: "apostasia" from whence we get our English word, "apostacy") first,..."

Another myth is that church traditions are a deterrent to church growth. We are firmly convinced that the reason many plain churches are losing in membership rather than growing is not because of our Scriptural traditions but the fact that these traditions are used as weapons for division in place of shields for oneness. We have yet to hear a good explanation for the fact that the greatest growth period of our Brethren heritage was when we held to our Brethren traditions.

It can be argued that the fastest growing Brethren body that shares a common heritage has completely departed from brethren tradition with the exception of trine immersion baptism and the lovefeast. It is our conviction that they are flourishing like the palm tree but failing to grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

True church growth is when all come in the unity of the faith. The present emphasis is unity in diversity. We must come to the knowledge of the Son of God. We can agree with the modern church growth advocates that Jesus Christ must come first and church doctrine last. However, this is like saying that a true salvation experience must precede a life of obedience. For we must come unto a perfect (mature) man. Our ultimate goal is to be unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ. Why do we need this? "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine." Let those who are so opposed to church doctrine explain this! The doctrine to avoid is "by the sleight of men." If the plain way of life is a man-made doctrine, who are those in the worldly churches following? Yes, they have cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive. We MIGHT grow by following the thinking of modernists. But it will be like the growth of a river that overflows its banks during a flood and brings destruction.

The real key to true church growth, in our humble opinion, is speaking the truth in love. Doing this will bring some growing pains. But it is only in this way that we "may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ."

Brother James M. Hite
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COME TO CHURCH

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." Psalms 122:1.

One of the most important ingredients in the Christian life is

good Christian fellowship. We cannot grow as a Christian without it. We do not go to the house of prayer just to worship God, or to hear the Word, or to pray. We also go to be near to fellow believers: to learn from them and abide with them. For you see, we have a common Father. That makes us brethren; relatives according to the spirit. David said in another place, "I am a companion of all them that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts." Psalms 119:63. In Malachi 3:16 it says that they feared the Lord spake often one to another. They fellowshiped together often. We understand that some cannot. Some are confined and some are just not able. It is up to the church then to minister to them.

There are those, however, that will not come. Perhaps they have been estranged from the body of Christ. If you are reading this today and you have been offended or upset by someone in the Body of Christ, all I can tell you is; Come to Church. There was a dark period in my spiritual life when great offense was caused me and I did not darken a church door for over half a year. The offense was not my fault, but it did not help to stay away from God's House and God's people. Things were made worse by staying away.

Elder George Wolfe, in his testimony written over a hundred and fifty years ago, said it this way: "When in 1812 I came to the church, the church did not come to me, I weighed well her doctrines, her rules and her order. I joined her communion because I loved her. I became one of her number. I turned away from the world. In fact, I withdrew from it. I reasoned that I did not love the world, but I loved the church. I will not be like the world I hate, but will be like the church I love."

There are many things of importance to note here. Though the church reaches out to all with the Gospel, it is ultimately up to the individual to come to the church. The saints can pray and invite you, and the Holy Spirit can woo and succour you, but it is up to you to come and become part of the Body of Christ. If a person alienates himself from the church or stays away for whatever reason, the world will come in. This is a natural fact. I know that there are places in this world where there are Christians alone, but not in our country today. There is no reason not to have fellowship with the saints of God.

If you feel someone in the Church has done you wrong there are provisions in the scripture to help you. Matthew 18:15-17 tells how, and it must be followed tenaciously. If it is not, there will be more and compounded problems. If you have differences with the Church as a whole, you cannot let your voice be heard by staying away. Come to Church. Express yourself to the saints.

You have no influence for good if you are not there. If you have a problem and you get mad and stay away, the same thing could happen to someone else. The church members should always try to understand each other. The scripture says, "Come and let us reason together". Reason gets things done. Reason does not hold a grudge. As long as we are willing to fellowship together in the name of Christ, we will understand one another. But we must have a desire for the House of the Lord and the fellowship of the Saints. Often our individual desires have to be set aside in favor of the Church as a whole. But if we love the Lord, I believe we will love the church and we will want what is best for it.

Brother Lynn H. Miller
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SIXTY YEARS AGO

July 1, 1932

CHRIST OUR REFUGE

W. R. Rask

There were six cities in the land of Canaan which were set apart as places of refuge to which a man might flee if he had either by accident or design killed another. These cities were of easy access; three were on the west side of the river Jordan and three on the east side. Every year the roads leading to them were examined to see that they were in good condition and that there was nothing in the way to stop the man slayer as he was running from his pursuer. At different points there were the guide boards and on them were written: "Refuge, refuge." If any man by accident killed another and reached one of these cities before his pursuer he was allowed to stay there until the death of the high priest who was then living, but if in anger a man had purposely killed another, then, although he sought refuge in one of these cities, he was given up to the avenger of blood to be slain. You will find more about these cities and their names if you will read the 30th chapter of Numbers, the 19th chapter of Deuteronomy and the 20th chapter of Joshua. But what interest can boys and girls and all older persons have in these cities? I will try to tell you. God has different ways of teaching. A great many things about which we read in the Old Testament are what is called types. A type in Scripture language means a pattern or a likeness to a person who is to come or to an event which is to take place; it is supposed to point forward to something more valuable than itself. Thus, for example, the blood of the lamb

which was slain on the Jewish altar was a type as a foreshowing of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ for our salvation. Hence, John the Baptist, pointing to the Savior, said to his disciples: "Behold the lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." (John 1:29) The Paschal lamb which was slain to commemorate the deliverance of the Jews from the bondage of Egypt and the lamb which was offered daily both morning and evening in the service of the temple were representations of the greater sacrifice which Christ came from heaven to make for our salvation. So the land of Canaan was a type of heaven; the lifting up of the brazen serpent on a pole was a type of our Savior's crucifixion; and the cities of refuge were a beautiful type of Jesus Christ, who is the sinner's refuge. You know, my dear children, that we have all sinned and that we all need a place of safety; the avenger says, "Thou shalt surely die, escape for thy life." But that we may not die eternally God has given us the Bible as our guide board and the Bible is constantly pointing to Jesus Christ as the sinner's refuge. He is our hiding place. It is to Him Isaiah refers when he says, "And a man shall be as a hiding place from the wind and a covert from tempest as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land," the way to our city of refuge is plain. I am the way, is the Savior's own direction; the gate is always open and the assurance is, Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast him out. I want you to remember, dear children, that it is a great deal easier to run to this city of refuge when you are young than it will be if you put it off until you are older. The promise of the Savior is, "Those that seek me early shall find me. Will you not seek Him when he may be found? How sad it will be if you neglect to do so. You will need a refuge when the tempest of God's judgment shall burst upon the wicked. Oh, then how glad you will be if you can say, as David said in his trust in God, "Thou are my hiding place, thou shalt preserve me from trouble, thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance."

OUR SATURDAY NIGHT

A Mistake in Marriage

J.H. Moore

I once knew a family of very devout people, expecially noted for their education, culture and standing in society. They had an only daughter, who, because of her brilliant mind and rare accomplishments, was the idol of her parents and the pride of the

community. Everything in the power of the parents was done to give the daughter a finished education and fit her for rare usefulness in the world. Nor was her religious and moral training neglected in the least, especially on the part of the mother, who was a model in religious circles.

The young woman moved in the best of society. Among the young men of the community, and some of them were of the highest type, she could have taken her choice. But, strange to say, her heart was in some manner won by a young man far below her in education, refinement and society. Her father pleaded and her mother wept, but all to no avail. Even her friends remonstrated, yet the young woman refused to listen to any one save the young man who had asked her hand in marriage.

The day came for the wedding. Hands were joined, a few words were said, a prayer was offered and the two hearts were one in the face of prayers and pleadings of loving parents and true friends. When the mother saw all was over, then, in deep anguish, after years of hard work and great anxiety in bringing up her daughter, and after spending hundreds of dollars in educating her, she was heard to say: "Surely, considering all the worry and toil, it does not pay to raise girls."

Few mothers have ever felt disappointed more keenly. She almost felt that her love had been outraged, and the more she pondered over the situation, the more did she feel in her own heart that her daughter had made a mistake. But she had done what she could to prevent the mistake, and so her conscience was clear.

The father and mother talked to situation over. They could not get away from the thought that their child had made a mistake and some day she would see it, but they were sensible people and decided that she was their daughter still, and that their home should be her home whenever she chose to spend a day or even an hour under their roof. They were too sensible to remind the young wife of her mistake after it was too late. They were too noble of heart to close the door on a daughter because she had, in this instance, gone contrary to their wishes.

They resoned that her mistake would make life sad enough, and that they would not make the situation still more unpleasant for her by heaping upon her the indignation that they felt in their hearts. They continued to treat her kindly, and did all they knew to make life's path as pleasant as possible.

Years have passed over the heads of those people, but during all this time the daughter has never been humiliated by the thought that her pious, intelligent and well-meaning parents look down on her. Surely she might have done better, and possibly

has at times thought so, but her parents are not disturbing her by reminding her of the warning they gave. With them the past is buried and they are helping to make the future bright.

But how many parents have made it unpleasant for a son or a daughter for marrying against their wishes? Some have become so enraged that they have actually locked the home door against their own children. It is sad enough for a daughter to make a mistake in marriage, let alone to be constantly reminded of it by the ill treatment of her father and mother.

It is wise in parents to encourage their children to keep only the best of company, so they may have the best from which to select a companion. They are not to be censured for becoming deeply concerned about the selection made; and, while it may be considered unwise for parents to choose companions for their sons and daughters, still they are acting within the bounds of their privileges when they do their utmost to prevent them from making mistakes. Yet when the choice is once made, and the ceremony is over, there being no opportunity to correct the mistake if one has been made, it shows a great lack of wisdom in parents for them to be constantly reminding the daughter and her husband of their disapproval. After the two have become one, let the past be buried.

UNITED WE STAND

A little tyke wandered out of the farm kitchen to play in the nearby wheat field. When his mother discovered his absence she began to search. She could not find him.

Nervously, she called to her husband for his assistance. Together, they combed the fields but without success. They called on neighbors to join in the search. No luck.

A call went out to the surrounding towns. Men and women came, people from all walks of life. They went into the fields and peered and tramped in an attempt to find the lost child. Still no trace.

Finally, one man declared, "Everybody is just wandering around in different directions. Let's join hands and make a sweep across the field. We can't miss that way!"

They listened to him. The blacksmith held the minister's hand, the teacher the hand of the housewife, and the carpenter that of the farmer. Men and women of all ages and walks of life joined hands to create one long line. They slowly and carefully moved across the field, until with a great cry of joy one man reached down and scooped up the long-lost child.

But...the child was already dead. They had tarried too long. As the lifeless form was placed into the farmer's arms, his haunting words cut through the gathering crowd, "Why didn't we join hands sooner — before it was too late?"

These words should haunt us too. There are children wandering right now - in our midst - children of our own. They are confused and disillusioned because of strife in the community - ill feelings in the church.

"Who says you are right? So and so doesn't feel that way," they say. They become cynical and sarcastic.

So now, before any more are lost, let's join hands. Let's give them clear direction and a distinct trumpet call. For if we give them many conflicting calls, how are they supposed to know what is expected of them?

So let us set aside our pet peeves and our own stubborn nature. Please, while we have the chance, now...before it's too late, let's join hands. For truly, "United, we stand, divided, we fall."

Selected from Young Companion
by Sister Pam Franklin

NEWS ITEMS

Walnut Grove, Maryland

If the Lord tarries, the Walnut Grove Congregation will be having a revival meeting beginning July 19, and ending July 26. We are looking forward to having Bro. Leonard Wertz with us as our evangelist. We ask an interest in your prayers, and invite your attendance at these meetings.

Sister Dorothy Nell, Cor.

Shrewsbury, Pennsylvania

Our Congregation is planning, the Lord willing, a revival meeting beginning July 26 and running through August 9. Bro. Paul Stump from Englewood, Ohio will be with us for these two weeks. Attend these meetings and especially pray that souls would be saved.

Sister Fern Ness, Cor.

Pleasant Ridge, Ohio

The Lord willing, the Pleasant Ridge Congregation will have revival services July 31 - Aug. 9. Bro. Jim Meyers of the Dallas Center Congregation will be our speaker. You are invited to worship with us anytime.

Sister Eileen Broadwater, Cor.

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BIBLE MONITOR

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

O WORSHIP THE KING

O worship the King all glorious above,
And gratefully sing His wonderful love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of days,
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, and sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender! how firm to the end!
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

- Robert Grant

THE POWER OF GOD

The awesome power of God has been demonstrated recently through the earthquakes in Southern California. These were the strongest earthquakes, in a very long time, to hit that area. Neither the natural landmarks nor the structures built by man have been able to withstand the terrific forces, unleashed by the earth's slipping and sliding. The combination of a rolling motion and a sharp jolt caused the great damage.

Why were these two earthquakes and their subsidiary aftershocks unleashed upon Southern California? We do not know, we can only surmise. God is the One who knows and He does not always enlighten men about His purposes.

Perhaps this series of earth movements was only a natural event. The tremendous pressure built up within was relieved by this slippage. This movement affected the earth for many miles around, shaking and heaving. God may have allowed His world to exercise her scientific laws.

God may have been giving all people and particularly those in Southern California a warning. The severest strokes of these quakes happened when most people were at home. The epicenters of these quakes were in isolated places, where relatively few people were directly affected. The physical injuries were few, compared to the population of the total area that was affected by the event. This should have served as a warning to those who felt the quakes but were unaffected by them, except in upset nerves and wobbly knees. This should have been perceived as a demonstration of God's power, that could have been unleashed more directly upon them. The God who is able to move the earth

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on such a grand scale can also cause more immediate and dramatic effects upon people's lives. The power of God is seen not only in the unleashing of such tremendous power but also in the ability to protect and preserve people who were affected by this event.

This series of movements may have been God's judgment upon this particular portion of this world that is so well known for unrighteous and irreligious lifestyles. It would hardly seem to be a judgment, when so little actual damage was done in the centers of such unholy living. Perhaps the judgment is not so much in the physical destruction as in the emotional turmoil that has settled in the minds of many of the ungodly. There is a fear of even worse events coming. There is a looking to every supposed hope and help but God. That is a terrible judgment in itself, even though the final destruction and punishment was not meted out at this time.

God, in His own wisdom, has at least allowed, if not actively sent forth this great shaking and moving of the earth's crust, for His own purposes. If this event affects different people differently and causes even a few to mend their ways and seek His way, then a great good has been accomplished by a powerful God, who is ever seeking for the Spiritually lost and straying. This event clearly shows evidence of an all-powerful God.

But as great as this display of power has been, it is not the greatest example of God's power as shown in His dealings with mankind. The most powerful exertion made by God is not in His management of nature, but in His dealings with the souls of men. He can but speak and nature must obey Him, but to gain control over the souls of men, He had to sacrifice His own Son.

Such a great effort was needed because God had originally created men in His own image. He gave men the ability to reason and to choose. Men have not always chosen the way that pleases their Creator. They have diametrically opposed the will of God. They have set their own course, choosing to do their own thing. Any path taken not of God's choosing is sin. Men can become very indifferent, even antagonistic, toward God, when choosing their own course. To rectify this condition, God's power of redemption is so great that it can overcome the sins and perverseness of fallen mankind. That power is delivered through His Son, Jesus Christ, which was the only power that could prevail. There was nothing that men could do in their own behalf, it was only what God was willing and able to do.

The only limit on the expenditure of God's power is whether men will accept it. If men reject what God has offered, then His power is unable to be used. When it is accepted, it is the power that changes lives. Lives of no evident value can be cleaned up and made valuable by the power of God.

God's power can be seen in His activities in the physical realm, but His greatest power is invested in the lives of men, that they may be what He wants them to be. In His power working in your life?

THOUGHTS ON ANNUAL CONFERENCE

I John 1:7, "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

As I sit here writing this it is early in the morning the day after Conference. For most of the Brethren and Sisters who were there, it was one of many. For me it was the first.

It is difficult for me to put on paper exactly how I feel because it was such a blessed event. The campgrounds were beautiful. The weather was good. The worship services were anointed of the Holy Ghost. We so much enjoyed the preaching and met many folks we had only heard of in the past. The idea of nearly a thousand people living together and worshipping God together and doing the work of the church was really special.

I was struck by the fact that two of our ministers felt led to speak on talents. It was impressive to me the great amount of talent our church possesses. My question is are we using our talents to the fullest for the honor and glory of God? A sermon was preached on "Turning the World Upside-Down." With what we possess in the Dunkard Brethren Church, we should surely be turning the world upside-down.

I am thankful to God that the brethren seek for opportunities to share the gospel. It is good to see new works opening up all the time. There are those still seeking the Lord, as the baptism during our Conference so aptly indicated.

It is a wonderful thing to be a part of a local congregation that works together in the spirit of love and harmony. We have been thankful for them many times over the past three years. But likewise we are a part of a larger picture in which God is being preached and exalted over the whole face of the United States. Might we be thankful unto Him for our Brothers and Sisters across the miles and might we pray for them, confident that they will be praying for us.

Brother Lynn H. Miller
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Newmanstown, PA 17073

A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE LIFE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL

The great Apostle to the Gentiles, Paul, was born in Tarsus of Cilicia into a strict Pharisee family. He was given the Jewish name "Saul."

He was pleased to be born a Roman citizen. He was a highly educated Jew. Paul was a very educated man having studied in Jerusalem under the Rabbi Gamaliel. He faithfully observed and kept the requirements of the law.

Although Paul had never met Jesus during His earthly ministry, he met many believers in the risen Christ. Paul lost no time in thinking what effect Christ's teachings would have on the people.

He consented to the death of Stephen by holding the slayer's coat. He carried a list of suspected Christians who resided in Damascus.

In Damascus he experienced a marvelous change. His encounter with the Lord caused a radical change in his life. God saw in Paul great talent, which if directed toward doing the Lord's work, would make him become a great soul winner.

A great light shone round about him, causing him to become temporarily blind. Saul, the persecutor, had been confronted by Jesus on the Damascus Road. He was led to the house of Judas on the street called Straight, where Ananias' came to him. Saul was baptized and immediately began preaching Jesus Christ and Him crucified. This signified that Paul had made a complete turn around.

After his baptism he spent a brief time in Arabia, before visiting Jerusalem. He stayed with Peter and John, the Lord's Brother for a short while. After this visit, it is apparent Paul spent several years in Cilicia preaching the Gospel and supporting himself as a tent maker.

Paul was called by Barnabas to help the congregation at Antioch carry on its ministry. Paul and Barnabas carried a special offering to the Church at Jerusalem and then returned to Antioch. Shortly afterward the Antioch Christians sent Paul and Barnabas on a preaching mission through Cyprus and Asia Minor.

On this and subsequent journeys Paul stirred opposition by his preaching. Paul's career was filled with high adventure, heavy responsibilities and much suffering, as the greatest missionary, other than Jesus, Himself. He organized churches throughout Asia Minor, Cyprus and many other locations, based on the Faith as he had received it by Divine Revelation. He was especially interested in the young people and young marrieds as a foundation of long enduring congregations.

In addition to establishing new churches or congregations, he spent many hours in writing correspondence offering encouragement. Other times he was compelled to write disciplinary letters to correct disorders in particular congregations. He made it a practice to personally visit the various churches. He took great interest in the Spiritual welfare of each member.

Paul's presentation and preaching to the Jews, after his conversion, were quite confusing to them. He NOW preached Jesus and Him crucified, as he had promised to do. His ministry was a success. It caused divisions at places and at others adhesions (stick-to-it-ive-ness). Through his efforts and inducements Jesus Christ and Him crucified have been preached by many following generations, including our own.

Paul's career was packed with high adventure, heavy responsibilities and deep suffering. As the great missionary he organized and encouraged young congregations throughout Asia Minor and in Europe. Paul's advice was highly sought and was given freely, emphatically, and with the power of the Holy Spirit.

Paul insisted he take an offering to Jerusalem for the poor. Extremists of the Jewish authority arranged his arrest. He was imprisoned for two years. After a trial in Rome, most authorities agree that Paul was beheaded after another long term of imprisonment. Read for a fuller account the following passages, Acts 13:38, Romans 1, I and II Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Phillipians, Colossians, I and II Thessalonians, I and II Timothy, Titus, Philemon and II Peter 3:15.

About A.D. 50 a Spiritual crusade began in Greece. It dramatically changed the tide of history. The Apostle Paul landed on the continent of Europe.

On statements backed by God's Holy Writ, Paul preached to a large and diversified audience, making many friends and not a FEW enemies. Luke, Paul's traveling companion, complained that Paul had been prevented from preaching in certain areas of Greek speaking Asia Minor, today known as Western Turkey. (Acts 16:6-8).

Luke notes that in Athens, all the Athenians and the foreigners who were present, spent their time either hearing or telling of some new thing. Paul preached to them Jesus Christ. I believe Paul's success in the ministry is the fact that he sought not his own will, but the will of the Heavenly Father who sent him.

It has been presumed that Paul preached wherever he had an audience. He stated he did not receive what he was preaching from man, but from God.

To be continued
Brother Paul R. Myers

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"Guidebook for life"

Most of us have worked with machinery that required a handbook. Some of these handbooks are very thick and comprehensive and we refer to them constantly for facts and formulas that we need to guide us in our work. In fact, the pages eventually get dog-eared and worn.

Accepting the Word of God as our guidebook implies that we will use it just as we do an important machinery handbook. If we do, the Bible will become dog-eared and worn and we will be filled with the knowledge for successful living. We should be constantly seeking the authoritative guidance needed to keep our lives on an even keel.

I am amazed at how many Christians are very unknowledgeable about their handbook, the Bible. We buy the best, most expensive Bible to carry and speak of it reverently and read little snatches from its pages for devotions but do not make its contents a major part of our lives. We never make the Book very personal.

Jesus, Himself said, "If you love me, keep my commandments." If we do not regularly read the Manual and understand the teachings, how will we know if we break one of His commandments. We need to study and be able to keenly sense the place the words have in our order of life. We will then be reckoned as a "wise" person.

It is only by operating according to the Guidebook that we will be able to have our lives founded on a rock. Our house will not fall because we have carelessly built it on the sand.

To do as the Bible instructs us is to become a whole person. Every major life experience is explained there. The demands of life are great today and a serious study of the Bible will give you an understanding of what God requests of you for now and the future.

The Manual will give us the ability to make long range goals. These should involve:

- Our personal development
- Our relationships with other people
- Our attitude toward "things"
- Our attitude toward the church

They will help us in preparation for eternity... involving not only the escape from sin but also the positive readiness to live with a God-consciousness, a deliberate pursuit of holiness.

The Bible has much to say about the kind of person you should be and will become. It points to several major areas in your life.

It provides:

A clear understanding of who you are

The guide to righteousness

The guide to peace

The guide to stability

The provision for faith in the future.

I challenge you to set your goals by the Guidebook. Undergird your life with the love of God and His Word and have direction and spiritual perspective. As more lofty values, beliefs, goals and the greater love of God and obedience to His Word become a reality in your life, you will then be equipped to tackle the things that come before you and you will be a "success" in the eyes of God.

Brother Len Wertz

WISDOM AND UNDERSTANDING

Job 28:28, "And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding."

Within our modern society intellectualism is highly esteemed. For many years now education has been upheld as the salvation of mankind. There is no denying that increased knowledge has been a blessing to mankind in many areas of our lives. Many diseases that once were a scourge to mankind are now almost eliminated. Our homes are filled with inventions that most of us would hate to be without. Modern highways make traveling much easier as we drive our modern vehicles. A higher percentage of young adults now attend college than ever before in history, providing us with the professional services that we need.

However, the scene is not as bright as it first appears. New diseases have replaced those conquered and the battle continues. Along with the inventions that are useful to mankind, are many, like the television, that have become a curse. Our modern highways and modern vehicles cause many more traffic fatalities. Many of the young adults attending our colleges waste their minds with drugs and alcohol.

Beyond all of this, intellectualism has entered our churches and caused a lack of wisdom and understanding. "The fear of the Lord, that is wisdom." Modern teaching coming from today's seminaries says that we must love God, not fear Him. Much of the same type of teaching comes from the seminars that have become very popular with our plain people. It is sad that the vast majority of seminaries and seminar leaders claim to have advanced wisdom and yet cannot understand the King James Version. Those in years gone by who had the fear of the Lord in their heart learned to read by using the King James Bible! The fear of the Lord has been

replaced by such teachings as evolution, higher criticism and historical evaluation. These all deny the fact that the Bible is the Word of God.

True wisdom allows us to go beyond our own intellect and rely upon the leading of the Holy Spirit. In order for this to take place we need a genuine conversion experience. When an individual is truly born again he will not understand all of the Holy Scriptures but he will believe it. When we truly believe the Holy Scriptures we will desire to live by its teachings. There are many individuals who talk much more about being born again than the Brethren traditionally have. But their lifestyles would suggest that they may have an intellectual knowledge of being born again but lack the wisdom of God as to what it really means. The fear of the Lord will dictate our style of dress, our types of amusements and recreation, and our daily habits. Having "gifts of the Spirit," claiming unconditional eternal security or even dressing plain will not provide us with a home in Heaven. The fear of the Lord, true wisdom, will provide us a means of escape from Hell.

"And to depart from evil is understanding." When we have true wisdom then we will have understanding. Our desire will be to depart from evil. Evil is symbolic of Satan, sin and worldly pleasures. The Bible teaches that when we are unsaved Satan is our father. When we become a son or daughter of God through Bible salvation, which includes baptism, we acquire a new Father. If "once a son, always a son" is true, as the unconditional eternal security teachers proclaim, then no one could ever be saved! When we have true understanding we will desire to depart from sin. This does not mean that we will be perfect. But it does mean we will have a perfect hatred of sin. When we have a new Father and sin no longer has us bound, we will not longer have a desire for worldly pleasures.

True wisdom and understanding was brought into the world in a new and glorious way when Jesus Christ shed His blood on the cross of Calvary. What Job and the other Old Testament Saints vainly worked for was made possible for us by this divine act of love. This act reached back to those Old Testament Saints and provided them with the salvation they desired in their heart. It is our understanding that they were then allowed to leave Sheol, Abraham's bosom located under the earth, and ascend with Christ to Paradise.

We, the Saints of God living today, can have the experience of a blood washed salvation. "Wisdom of man" which is actually error, denies this. Modern "understanding" which the Bible describes as the foolishness of man, says we can make it by our own efforts. Let us desire true wisdom and understanding. May we truly fear the

Lord and depart from evil. May we be willing to lay aside the things of this world and cling to heavenly values.

Brother James M. Hite
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SIXTY YEARS AGO

July 15, 1932

WHY TARRIEST THOU?

J. F. Britton

"And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt there, Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him. And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldst hear the voice of his mouth. For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard. And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." (Acts 22:12-16.)

A wonderful message, and profound question fraught with eternal consequences to a man stricken and prostrated under the Power that is greater than all human powers.

Ananias, looking upon Saul, and perceiving that he was under spiritual conviction, and striving with the Divine Powers, said, "Why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord."

Suppose Saul had said, "I think I had better wait a while. I would like to know more about this sudden change of things. I would like for matters to develop a little more. I am wondering what is going to be the outgrowth of this new-fangled religion which those despised Nazarenes are perpetrating through the country. It may be all right, But I think I had better go back to Jerusalem and consult the high priest, and the authorities there before I decide what to do."

Dear reader, do you believe that if Saul had taken such a position in that critical moment, there would ever have been such an energetic, courageous and gigantic exponent of the Gospel of Jesus Christ as he became? No. Saul did not procrastinate nor await developments; neither did he "quench the spirit", nor "confer with flesh and blood."

Saul was a man of convictions and high ideals, and in his coalition with the "ONE that doeth all things well", he had a new vision of life, and the highest mission of man, for he yielded to the Divine

call, not partially, but wholeheartedly, and without any reservations. Therefore, through the instrumentality of the Holy Spirit working in his life, he became the great and eminent Apostle Paul.

Paul proclaimed, "Whereupon, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly visions: But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coast of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance." (Acts 26:19-20.)

It should be noted that Saul was fully convinced that he was not stricken and prostrated by any human powers, when he heard the "...voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do." (Acts 9:4-6.)

Without any questions, Saul arose, in response to the word of the Lord, and went into Damascus, and was there three days, without eating or drinking and in utter darkness with a subdued will and a contrite heart. And the Lord sent Ananias to him to tell him what he should do. And Saul obeyed, and immediately the scales fell from his eyes: and he received his sight, "and was baptized." And laid his life upon the altar of service. And God used him mightily in his kingdom of righteousness. Therefore, Saul, who became known as Paul, stands upon the Sacred Page as an object lesson, and a worthy criterion, and every one who has a desire to worship and serve God, in spirit and truth should "arise" by "grace Divine" in response to that same "voice" which arrested Saul in his mad career.

By reason of the lamentable conditions that have come into the modern church, many people have halted between two opinions, and have become inactive and "hung their harps upon the willows." (Psa. 137:2.) And, like Elijah of old, who lay down under a "juniper tree", and was awoke by an angel who "said unto him, Arise... and he arose... and he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah?" After some demonstrations of the Divine Power about him he responded to the voice of Gods. (I Kings 19.)

Hence the interrogation at the beginning of this article is applicable to every one who is not in a workable unison with the Lord. Why tarriest thou? Why sit there and lament and mourn in despondency? Arise, dear brother, and listen to the inspiring voice of the Lord, saying, "I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him." Thank God and praise His holy name, that

He has always had a people that have been true, loyal and faithful to Him.

Why do you wait, dear brother.
Oh, why do you tarry so long?
Your Savior is waiting to give you
A place in his sanctified throng.

What do you hope, dear brother,
To gain by a further delay?
There's no one to save you but Jesus,
There's no other way but his way.

"And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." (Rev. 18:4.)

Hence the voice of God is still calling, "Why tarriest thou? ... It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks." Amen.

CHRISTIAN ASSURANCE

Christian assurance is like going on a trip. We don't know if we will get to our destination, but we can know if we are on the right road. We also know that we have the provisions to get to our destination.

A strong basis for Christian assurance is faith. It is much needed in becoming a Christian. One of the first questions the church asked me when I was baptized and became a member was, "Do you believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that He brought from Heaven a saving gospel? It definitely takes faith to become a Christian.

A second basis for Christian assurance is justification by faith. This simply means you are considered by God one who has never sinned. This takes place at your conversion.

Christian assurance has another strong basis: sanctification. To sanctify means to consecrate, to free from sin, to clean up, and to take away the sin and guilt of a penitent sinner.

One more main basis of Christian assurance is to understand Christ's provision of blood to take away sins. We must understand why he died to redeem all mankind. A verse that many pre-schoolers memorize, John 3:16, says, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

There are some tests for evaluating our Christian Assurance. One is the test of obedience. We must obey the Bible. The second test is the test of the Holy Ghost's presence in our lives.

Do we get inspired about helping to sing at church? Do we pay attention to the preacher? Is there a difference in our lives? Lastly

is the test of our conscience. If our conscience feels guilty, we should make sure we are obeying all that we know to do. If so, we can be assured we are headed to heaven.

The end of time is drawing nigh and so it behooves us to make our hearts right with God.

Brother Lynn H. Miller, Jr.

OUR SATURDAY NIGHT

In the Woods of Florida

J. H. Moore

It was on a Saturday in the early winter of 1878. I was then living in Putnam County, Florida, on the south bank of a charming lake, known as Lake Keuka. I was at work in my orange grove when approached by a stranger. I perceived by his rapid walk, and business-like way of approaching me that he was not only a Northern man, but that he was in haste.

After being assured of my name, he wished to know if I was a "Dunkard" minister. I told him I was. He then stated his mission, saying that he was from Bears Mills, north of Gainesville, that a lady, a member of our church, had died, and the friends wished me to come to the place and conduct the funeral services.

I had visited Gainesville a few times, about thirty miles to the west, had frequently heard of Bears Mill, but had never been in that immediate vicinity, or met any of the men connected with the mills. To reach Gainesville by train that evening, it would be necessary for me to get ready and go with the gentleman at once. In due time I was at the Keuka depot, one-half mile from my home, and together we started on the late afternoon train, — the last train for that week.

Gainesville was reached about sundown. Supper was eaten at the hotel and the stranger was ready with his buggy for a drive of eight or ten miles through the lone woods of Florida. The route lay through tall timber the entire distance, and, after leaving the vicinity of Gainesville, not a house or light was to be seen. The night was dark, and the dense timber, on either side of the narrow road, made the situation anything but pleasant to contemplate.

Here I was, with a stranger in a great timber belt, and not a settler, black or white, in hearing distance. Often I could not see the road or the horse, and at times not even the driver. By looking up I got an occasional glimpse of the stars and could, now and then, see the light of the sky through the branches of the great pines. For miles everything was still. Not a sound could be heard aside from that produced by our conveyance, and the

rustling of the wind among the leaves. Not a human being was met. In a sense it reminded one of passing through the valley and shadow of death. I made the trip by faith and not by sight. I trusted everything to my driver and his faithful animal.

Finally we reached an opening and I saw a dozen lights at the different mill shanties that had been erected around the mills for the workmen. I was received at a large building, all recently constructed of new pine lumber, was ushered into a large open hall, after Southern style, then into a large, well-lighted and well-furnished living room, where I was most kindly greeted by several men and women, who seemed to regard me as the most welcome visitor from a distant and friendly land. I never before or since met a group of strangers where our natures seemed to blend so quickly.

We were soon engaged in conversation. Those in the house gathered close around me, and it seemed almost like close friendship from the start. The people told me that they were from the neighborhood of Nappanee, Indiana, that they knew the Brethren well, had come into the great timber belt of Florida to engage in the milling business, and that in their number was a widow, with two boys, and that the woman had taken sick and died. They had heard of me while in the North, knew of my locating at Keuka, and had sent for me to come and help bury their neighbor, for she was a member of the Brethren church, they said, and a good woman.

The mills were about one mile from a settlement of well-to-do Southern people. In their community the services were held. Nearly all the mill people attended the funeral, and the Southern people came for miles. The audience was a large one, made up of a good class of people from the North and South. The incidents leading up to the funeral had deeply impressed me, and prepared me for the occasion. The situation was unique and that put me at my best. I made use of the opportunity, told the story of the woman and her sad death, far away from her Northern kindred and her church. I told the story of her church, her religion, her hope of the great future, and then dwelt on the certainty, the importance and the nature of the future life. In all my experience in the ministry I never had closer attention. To most of the people, and especially the southern people, the story was out of the usual, and then, being delivered in the very shadow of death, made the services only the more impressive.

We laid the good woman to rest, in a lonely grave, in the genial clime, beneath the Southern sun, in a land of almost perpetual summer, where snows seldom come and where the long summer is given. I felt sorry for the children that were left without a mother. I could do no more than pray for them and commit them to the care of the great Father.

I came away from the place, and never had an opportunity of returning. I have thought of the incident, as it relates to a part of my experience, a hundred times. I have thought of the lonely grave beneath the Southern sky, the orphan children and the people I met. In my funeral address I aimed to sow much gospel seed, as well as to comfort the people. I have often wondered about the seed that was sown on that occasion. Did any of it fall into good ground and grow, or did all of it fall by the wayside? I am wondering. What will the harvest be, or will there be any harvest from the sowing?

NEWS ITEMS

MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new address of Bro. Galen Scott Shelly is: 111 Maple Avenue, Hanover, Pennsylvania 17331. The telephone number is 717-632-6763.

SWALLOW FALLS, MARYLAND

There will be a Revival at the Swallow Falls Church, August 15 through 23, 1992, with evangelist Ray Stuber, Felton, Pennsylvania. Come one, come all. I am sure Bro. Stuber will have lots of good things from God's Word to tell and remind us of.

Prophecy of the last days is speedily being fulfilled. Let us be ready for and anticipating His coming, for in an hour when we think not He may come and find us not watching.

If you cannot come please remember our little flock in prayer.

Sister Ruth M. Snyder, Cor.

THANK YOU

We have enjoyed each greeting received from the brethren and sisters over the Brotherhood in honor of our 40th Wedding Anniversary. Thank you for adding to the special blessings of our day.

In Christian Love,
Ivon and Edna Wertz

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR AUGUST 1992

August 2 - Elijah and Ahaziah - II Kings 1:1-18.

1. Why did King Ahaziah seek information from a heathen God?
2. How did God prove Elijah was His prophet? verse 10, 12.

August 9 - Elijah Taken up to Heaven - II Kings 2:1-25.

1. How did Elijah test Elisha?
2. How did Elisha prove he was ready to fill Elijah's position?

August 16 - Dry Country Filled with Water - II Kings 3:1-27.

1. Who did the three kings seek when desperate for water?
2. How did God meet these needs?

August 23 - The Widow's Pot of Oil - II Kings 4:1-17.

1. Ponder Elisha's question, "What hast thou in the house?"
2. How did the woman demonstrate faith and obedience?

August 30 - The Shunamite's Son - II Kings 4:18-44.

1. How was this woman rewarded for her hospitality?
2. To whom do we turn when sick?

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR AUGUST 1992

August 2 - The Transfiguration - Luke 9:28-36, II Peter 1:16-21.

1. What is a transfiguration?
2. Why was Christ transfigured?

August 9 - Brotherly Love - Deut. 10:17-22, Matt. 22:36-40, Jn. 15:11-21.

1. What are the characteristics of brotherly love?
2. How are you fulfilling the great commandment?

August 16 - A Person of Faith - Luke 7:1-10.

1. What role does faith play in our life?
2. How can we become a person of faith.

August 23 - What Road are we on? - Matt. 7:11-21, Heb. 12:12-29.

1. What are the two paths we can choose in life?
2. How can we know which road we are on?

August 30 - Our Invitation - Is. 1:18-20, Matt. 11:27-30, Rev. 22:17-19.

1. Why does Christ invite us to Him?
2. How have you responded to the great invitation of life?

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BIBLE MONITOR

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

WHOLE-HEARTED SERVICE

I've turned from the world and its follies,
Forever forsaken all sin;
I've given myself unto Jesus
To ever and only serve Him.

I will not be languid or careless,
Or formal, or cold, or untrue;
But striving with earnest endeavor,
The will of my Lord I will do.

Since Jesus gave all to redeem me,
Since only through mercy I live,
It now is my joy and my purpose
A whole-hearted service to give.

Oh, help me, dear Lord, to be ready
The task that thou givest to do,
Not shrinking from labor or duty,
Devoted and faithful and true.

- C. W. Naylor

HEZEKIAH

When we think about Hezekiah, we usually think about his recovery from a life threatening disease. The sign of his recovery was very dramatic. We think of time as rushing madly forward. It just seems to get away from us. But to prove to Hezekiah that his healing was truly from God, the sun actually retreated ten degrees. For once time went backwards. Not only was he healed of this particular disease, but was given fifteen years of additional life.

There are other things that we remember about Hezekiah. Hezekiah was a Godly man, who came to the throne in a very difficult time. No longer was Judah as near to God as in the past, the power and glory of the kingdom was fading. Much of this departure from God's rule and law was brought about during the lengthy reign of Hezekiah's father, Ahaz. He had introduced idol worship and had let the House of God fall into disrepair, both physically and Spiritually. Even the observance of the Passover had been neglected. Hezekiah encouraged the reestablishment of the observance of the Passover in the way God had instructed Moses. It had not been observed as carefully as it should have been in the prior years, so he wanted it to be reinstituted and observed as nearly correctly as possible.

Sometimes it requires a great deal of courage to stand against the casual observance of the ordinances. It is necessary to do all that is possible to strengthen that which remains. Even today in the Church it is so easy to let slide the established method of carrying out the ordinances. Living in a very casual land, it is easy to let this casual attitude drift into the observance of even

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the most sacred of the ordinances. It is genuinely thought that a quicker, easier way will be more appealing to others, which may work fine for awhile, but later, the Spirituality begins to drift away. Methods may very well change, but the principles dare never be changed. A great deal of care has to be taken in changing methods so the principles are not compromised. Often the old, proven methods have helped to preserve the principles.

Hezekiah was willing to take such a stand and have the Passover reinstituted. This would be surprising, considering that his father had not been a Godly man. In fact, he had been an enemy of God. He had established idol worship as the official religion of the land. Because of a parent's influence upon his children, it would be expected that Hezekiah would have been very ungodly and wicked. Instead he was one of the best kings, Judah had had for awhile. He had the Temple cleansed and repaired and made fit for worship. He supported the Levites and Priests in their religious work.

Hezekiah's example proves that people can overcome their environment, even if it is the home. God is not looking for people with excuses about the situations they have had to face in their lives. He is looking for people who are willing to invest themselves and their time and talents in serving Him as best they can. Many spend their time figuring out why they cannot do what they know should be done, instead of just doing it. The struggle may not be easy, but victory is possible, when the Lord's strength is depended upon.

Hezekiah was a man of great faith and prayer. He prayed when his physical condition threatened to end his life. He also prayed when danger threatened Jerusalem. When the enemy sent word that he should surrender or face the consequences, Hezekiah laid the letter before the Lord. The Lord provided powerful and overwhelming means of resisting the enemy. The Lord could preserve His people, while He destroyed the enemy.

Hezekiah was not perfect. After his life had been spared and he had prospered, he became careless about his possessions. He began to see them as his own, instead of being loaned to him by God. He boastfully showed to his royal visitors all his treasures, which he valued.

Likewise, earthly treasures can become a great snare to Christians. It is often through a frugal and godly lifestyle that treasures are accumulated. Then they may become snares instead of helps. There may be a tendency toward pride and a soft lifestyle. No longer is there a need for frugality, so the riches may be depended upon. This is as possible today as in the time of Hezekiah.

Hezekiah's life should serve primarily as an encouragement that we would seek God's direction in our public and private needs. We may not have such dramatic incidents in our lives as his, but we can still invest our lives without excuse or fear as he did.

Are you willing to be a Hezekiah, today?

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The Marriage of the Lamb

We are in the season when many marriages are taking place. These are special and beautiful times that are to be long cherished and remembered. But can you imagine what the marriage of the Lamb is going to be like? Possibly you haven't even thought about it that much. Rev. 19:7-9 communicates about a beautiful wedding, which is such an awesome occasion that your local newspaper could never do it justice.

Think about it! It is a breathless moment in the heavens above. It is the Moment of all moments, for which the whole creation has been patiently waiting, and fervently longing for and looking toward for thousands of years. It is the Marriage of the Lamb. At last, we shall see and experience the consummation of all Christian hope and the fulfillment of all saintly aspirations and dreams.

This is the day when all the shadows that cloud our knowledge will flee away and our tears and toils will be forever over. It is a time when death will be delivered unto death and will be destroyed in its own dark dungeon. The Marriage of the Lamb is the keystone in the arch of our redemption. Could we ever describe it sufficiently? It is the moment of moments for all time and eternity.

This marriage will eclipse all of the beauty and brightness, the grace and glory, the meaning and majesty of every wedding celebration in the annals of time. They will fade into a faint reflection of this greatest of all weddings.

Jesus deigned to begin His earthly ministry in the midst of a wedding feast. He graced and glorified that festive occasion by turning water into wine. He performed the great miracle of a new creation... changing the ordinary into the extraordinary to show the very purpose of His first coming. This was to illustrate the sacrificial pouring forth of His own crimson, redeeming blood to save and to sanctify believing sinners.

Now we see Him closing His ministry, to unworthy humanity, in the midst of another wedding celebration. He is the Alpha and the Omega. He will take unto Himself, in the ultimate holy re-

lationship... His beautiful bride which was bought by His own blood, saved by His sacrifice and robed in His own spotless righteousness. The bride is gathered into the Heavenlies from every kindred, tongue, and nation and from all of the centuries of the age of grace. This sacred undissolvable union of believers with Christ is to be sealed forever by God who ordained this even from His eternal abode in Heaven.

The anointed eyes of John carried him forward through time and he was able to look on this Marriage. He was left in utter wonder and amazement. The scene was overwhelming to view and he fell on his knees in the attitude of ardent worship.

Look for a moment at the setting. The environment is of richest gold and the celestial choir is ranked across the heavenlies. Angels are attending and the air is full of swelling crescendos of praise. Salvation, glory, honor, and power are ascribed unto the Lord, Alleluia!

The Bride "hath made herself ready." She is dressed in fine linen which is pure and white. It is appropriate for the righteous saints. A gown like this one has never been seen.

The Bride has eyes only for the bridegroom. She sees Him... majestic, expectant... longing for this grandest of moments, the wedding ceremony. As Ruth, in the long ago story, came into all the riches of the mighty man Boaz by virtue of her union with him, so the heavenly Bride enters into the heavenly riches by union with her Redeemer.

And what is a wedding without a feast or refreshments? Certainly this Marriage Supper will be one that will be without parallel. The servers will not be dressed in special garments and just be friends of the bride for the Server will be Christ Himself. He will serve His Bride around that great, long table. He serves His bride which has overcome the sin of the world and will be granted to sit with Him in His throne for evermore. This Bridegroom is the King of Kings and His rule is eternal. With the Bride, His throne will be shared for measureless eternity. The Bride and Bridegroom will be forever young. There will be no grave to look forward to. There will be no weeping, no crutches of fear and despair. There will be only peace... perfect peace forever.

The Marriage of the Lamb is the consummation of everything. Surely all eternity will shout at that moment and will shout with triumph, "It is done." "Great and glorious are all thy works, Oh thou the everlasting God."

May God hasten this wonderful day when we shall meet the Blessed Son face to face and when His smiling favor will rest upon us in that new and eternal relationship.

Brother Len Wertz

1992 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Saturday P.M.

Bro. Tom St. John opened. Genesis 32:24. The cry of our heart, O Lord bless us. Sometimes a blessing requires a sacrifice.

Bro. Scott Bross. I Samuel 18:1-4. "Who Are Your Friends." David was very much worried and afraid of King Saul. King Saul was very jealous of David. We need a knitting together in the Spiritual things of life. We must have a strong relationship that our souls be knit together. Lets look for a friend of like disposition as Jonathan did. Be a friend and a Brother and we can see our church grow. Only by the help of God we can be friendly to one that is unfriendly to us. Only through Christ we can love one who is unkind to us.

Bro. Marlin Marks. Luke 19:13, "Christ's Aspiration For His Church." We are fellow pilgrims in the Lord. Sometimes we are too busy and fail to give time for the Lord. The ten servants each received the same. They were suppose to use their talents to a good advantage. They had work to do. Our Lord is coming back. Have you occupied your time for Him? What should we be doing? He that knoweth to do good and doeth it not unto him it is sin. The Lord gave us salvation. He says, "What will you do for me?" If we want to be faithful we must be willing to work for the Lord. We need to grow in the Lord's work. Those that will not take up the cross and follow Christ will be enemies of Christ. Too many in the world are rejecting Christ. We must use everything in our life to the honor and glory of God. What have you done with the pound that Christ gave you? Lets do our part in the work for Christ. Let us be busy in God's work.

Bro. Paul Nell closed. There's a time to speak and a time not to speak.

Saturday Evening.

Elder Allen Eberly opened. Philipians 2:1-13. We must be of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vain glory.

Elder Warren Smith. Romans 1:8. "Reputation." Reputation is to account or give a good credit, a good name, respectable and credible. How are we as a church recognized? We try to lead to a good name. Christ holds a great power in His name. Reputation is a good name and great integrity. Apostle Peter had great integrity. Apostle Peter healed the lame man. He could walk again. Apostle Paul felt that power of Christ. Being a Christian sets us apart from the world. It gives us great reputation. Job was a perfect man of God. Christ gave us the goal to be a true Christian in this life. Christ can take away the

sins in our life if we only ask Him and live true and faithful to Him. We should be able to live a content life for the Lord and appreciate His blessings to us. Let us hold a good way of life for Christ, keep a good name for Him. Let us do as the Apostle Paul. He said, "I have fought a good fight." What do you do for your faith? When Christ comes will He find faith in Him within you. Our good reputation could influence some one to follow Christ. We want to be sober and serious minded for the Lord. We dare not be too casual minded while working for the Lord. We must be obedient to have the name of being a Christian.

Elder Fred Pifer closed. It is good to be a born again Christian. If we want to have a good reputation we have to take Jesus as our beloved Savior and be born again and live true to Him all of our life.

Sunday Morning Worship

Bro. Jason Reed. Psalms 71:1-19. It's easy to teach what, but more difficult to teach why. We must teach our children to make our God their God. Let's tell the next generation the power of God.

Sunday A.M.

Elder Joseph Flora opened. Psalms 84. Selah (Think of that) It's wonderful to come into the Lord's house and worship Him. Blessed is the man that trusteth thee. We need to grow in grace. Worship is showing a great respect to God.

Children's Bible Study - The Parable of the Sower - Luke 8:4-15.

Elder Eldon Mallow. James 4:14. "For What is Your Life." Are we thankful for the life God has given us? James said, "Our life is just a vapor." God wants us to prepare ourselves for Eternity. God has eternal life for us. God put us here to work and do something for ourselves and for others. God wants us to lay up for ourselves treasures in Heaven. God wants us to sow the good seed not to the flesh but to the Spirit. Sowing to the Spirit we can gain Eternal Life. How much do we put forth in life for the Lord? Be diligent to serve the Lord. Are we living our life pleasing to the Lord? We are either Heaven bound or Hell bound. Let us chose Christ to help us gain salvation. Blot out anything that hinders us from walking with and serving Jesus. Live faithful to Him. We should prepare ourselves to gain life Eternal. Satan tries very hard to deceive us. Life is something to think upon. We should always say if it be the Lord's will we will continue our plans. Put the Lord first. What can we prepare our life to be?

Elder Eugene Kauffman. Genesis 26:18. "Let's Dig." The statistics show that many churches are on the decline. The Holy Word tells us there will be a great falling away in the latter days. Will Christ find faith on the earth when He comes again. Luke 18:8.

There are many churches over the land that are growing in large numbers, but do these churches have the right faith. Many churches today fail to preach sound doctrine or live according to God's Holy Word. Redig the wells of our forefathers as Isaac did. Redig the wells of sound doctrine and Christ's church. Prayer is necessary to the ministry. We must call upon God to help us save this dying world, and draw them to Christ. Prayer changes things with the help of God. Our help must come from God. We dare not have sin in our life because our prayer will not be answered. Let's return to the faith of our fathers. Jesus set the path for us to follow. Jesus said, "If you don't come to me as little children you can't be saved."

Elder Henry Walker closed. What is your life? It is but a vapor. What shall your life be?

Sunday P.M.

Elder Hayes Reed opened. 1 Peter 2. We, as new born Christians, can grow every day in Christ. We need daily food, the Word of God. We need prayer often. Put God's Holy Word in use to help lost souls find salvation.

Elder Emmert Shelly. Psalms 119:83. "A Bottle in The Smoke." God never fails any time to hold up His promises. David was chosen to be King of Israel. Satan will leave us for a season. He will come back to us in a cunning way again. We must be ready for him and turn him off from us. Do not let him deceive us. Too many times we become a bottle in the smoke. There are many trials that come our way. Let us not lose faith in Christ. We are to take up our cross alone and follow Him.

Elder Frank D. Shaffer. Proverbs 14:11-12. Let's keep in that straight and narrow way. There is a way that seemeth right to man but the way thereof is death. God is the way. He is the truth. Many times in the Scriptures we find the way of death because God was displeased. We have the Holy Word to read to find the truth and tell us the right way to live for Him. If we press on to serve the Heavenly Father to the end we will gain that Eternal Home.

To be continued
Sister Alice Heisey

A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE LIFE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL

Part 2

During the course of Paul's ministry, he was privileged to preach Jesus Christ to the people in many localities. Berea is a good example.

Modern Veria, population 30,000, is the city formerly called Berea in Paul's time. It was located about forty miles southwest of Thessalonica. Berea was anciently considered an out-of-the-way place of little importance historically or politically. As usual Paul went to the synagogue and taught the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ. A large number of Greeks and prominent women from the area were converted. (Acts 17:12). The Berean people had an open-minded diligent approach to the scriptures. They were more fair-minded and concerned than those in Thessalonica, since they received the Word with readiness, and searched the scriptures. They searched the scriptures themselves to see if the things Paul taught were recorded there.

Troubles were brewing. Jews from Thessalonica came down to Berea and caused quite a stir among the people. The believers, in order to avoid confrontation, escorted Paul south to Athens. (verses 13-15).

Though the Apostle Paul endured severe trials, he never gave up or shrank from duty. As a consequence, he not only suffered mental agony, but suffered physically, at the hands of his enemies. Paul and his co-worker, Silas were cast into prison for promoting God's Word.

In II Corinthians we have a catalogue of what the Apostle, himself, says he endured. I quote, "He said he was a Hebrew, that he was an Israelite and of the seed of Abraham, so am I. Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool), I am more; in labors, more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. Besides those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, THE CARE OF THE CHURCHES.

Any Elder or Minister who is carrying the responsibility of one congregation can hardly imagine the responsibilities the Apostle had on his shoulders, with so many congregations. The languages were different, long distances needed to be traveled by the slow means of that time. He was not able to stay at an inn or hotel each night because they were few, if any. He experienced the same situation when meal time came.

He was provided for by the Lord who sent him on these journeys as were the disciples, without script, change of clothing and so

forth. Paul was satisfied, contented and enjoyed seeing the Church grow.

One can come to no other conclusion than that the Apostle Paul was a man of God and a warrior for the Lord Jesus Christ, and even with all the hardships Paul endured, God was caring for him.

Paul was that type of man and worker, that of the many who may have traveled the Damascus Road, all others were passed by. The Lord only chose Paul. He became the leader of the missionary travels and works, which were waiting for responsible personnel, who He knew would be reliable and faithful.

The Apostle Paul proved to be God's man. He was not abashed to state, near the end of his life, in II Timothy 4:5-8, "But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. For I am ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them that love his appearing."

To be continued
Brother Paul R. Myers

NO FEAR IN LOVE

I John 4:16-18, "And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love."

I John 5:3, "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."

Philippians 2:2, "Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being the one accord, of one mind."

As we approach our subject of no fear in love a caution flag immediately goes up in our mind. We must be careful to avoid the unscriptural teaching that it is wrong to fear God. Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, taught us that we are to fear God. Matthew 10:28, "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

This in no way contradicts the divine truth that "we have known and believed the love that God hath to us." This love is clearly demonstrated in Romans 5:8, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

We were not worthy of the love of God. Yet the Lord Jesus Christ suffered and died, shedding His precious blood, that we might have eternal life. My friend, if you should be reading this and have never experienced the forgiveness of your sins, God loves you and desires that you be saved.

Yes, "God is love." But as Jesus Christ taught, God is also a God of judgement. The Bible does not teach the universal salvation of all mankind. Neither does it teach that there are many ways to God. It clearly teaches that there is no salvation outside of the shed blood of Jesus Christ. A failure to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior or following a false teaching will bring the judgement of God upon you.

"He that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him." Do we truly desire to love as God loves? Or do we limit our love to those who look and speak as we do? There are those who falsely teach that God has made "white" skin to identify his children. We must be careful that we are not like Peter when the damsel reminded him, "for thy speech bewrayeth thee." In plain English it would say, "Your talk does not match your walk!"

"Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgement." We believe that "boldness" is the same as "assurance." The Bible does not teach unconditional eternal security, but it does teach eternal assurance. We read in I John 5:13, "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God."

"Because as he is, so are we in this world." We are like the Lord Jesus Christ in this world? This certainly cannot refer to being sinless. We respect those who teach sinless perfection in this life, but we would not feel worthy of claiming this for ourself. Without being judgemental, we also seriously doubt that most are as "spiritual" as they claim to be. This, also, cannot refer to the deity of Jesus Christ. The teaching that we are "little gods" or even "little christs" is false teaching that has its roots in the new age movement. We also seriously doubt that anyone living today has the power of healing and miracles demonstrated by our Lord Jesus Christ and the apostles. This is not to say that miracles and healings do not take place. Many refuse to admit it, but some miracles and healings are works of Satan. When God works miracles and healing in our day, as well as in the first century church, it brings Him glory and honor. If a man is taking this honor for himself, beware! So how are we like the Lord Jesus Christ in this world? We believe this refers to the fact that God loved us as much as He loved His own Son. Certainly this should cause us to rejoice.

But is the love of God all one sided as some teach? Not according to Scripture. "For this is the love of God, that we keep

his commandments." If we refuse to keep His commandments we reject His love. We praise God that "his commandments are not grievous." This does not mean that it is always easy to live as God desires us to. Neither does it mean that God does not expect anything of us. Rather it means that if we love Him as we should, we will not be rebellious children. Sadly, many "Christians" say that they will not do something God asks "no matter what the Bible says." "I do not understand it that way" is no excuse for disobedience.

God says to His church, "Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind." There is a fine line between desiring to be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, in the Church and tyrannical rule. "There is no fear in love." We cannot force individuals to believe as we do. "But perfect love casteth out fear." While we do not wish to be judgemental toward others, we sincerely believe if we had the perfect love towards God that we should have we would not fear the plain way of life, like it appears some do. Do we love God enough that we no longer fear what man may say about us or do we fear what men say so much that we lose the perfect love of God in our hearts? "Fear hath torment." Fear can cause us to lose our assurance of salvation. It can also cause us to lose the love we have for one another.

"He that feareth is not made perfect in love." Let us cast aside the fear of Satan, sin and worldliness and replace it with the boldness of the holiness of God made perfect in His love. Let us not fear the traditions and practices our beloved Dunkard Brethren Church has given us through the love of Scripture, but desire to share them with love.

Brother James M. Hite
816 E. Birch St.
Palmyra, PA 17078

SIXTY YEARS AGO

August 1, 1932

FOLLOW THOU ME

J. W. Galley

Jesus at various times said to his disciples, "Follow thou me," God created man and told us he formed him out of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils and he became a living soul, "So God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, he took one of his ribs, closed up the flesh thereof, and made a woman for a help meet for the man." He placed them in a garden and gave them instruction as to what they should do and what they should not do,

but they transgressed and did not follow God's instruction and that brought the great curse upon the human family, and as God had said, "Let us make man in our image," showing that Jesus was present. God promised to send a redeemer to remove the curse, so he sent his only son down to remove the debt or mortgage that was resting on every soul. Jesus removed that debt by the suffering of his death and shedding of his blood. Jesus said many times to his disciples, "Follow me!" Jesus said he came to do his father's will and we believe he did follow his will, and the father gave all power into his hands. He manifested it in the presence of many witnesses raising the dead, healing the sick, restoring the blind to sight. He did many wonderful works while he was here on earth.

He chose his apostles and said, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." Jesus having in view the church at that time. He said, "Upon this rock will I build my church," meaning (Jesus) himself, I have laid the foundation, "for other foundation can no man lay than that is laid which is Jesus Christ," and only in and through his church have we any promise of entering into the new Heaven and new earth that is promised to his faithful followers. Now Jesus did not leave us in darkness as to how we were to enter into his church, but gave us the example. He came to the Jordan where John was baptizing, to be baptized of him. John forbade him saying, "I have need to be baptized of thee," Jesus said, "Suffer it to be so now to fulfill all righteousness." Then he suffered him, and when he was baptized he went up straightway out of the water, and lo the heavens were opened unto him and he saw the spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting upon him.

Now as he has given us examples and says I am the way, the truth and life, why not follow him rather than some other way. Not long ago the writer was asked about our after life. The question was, "Will we know or recognize each other in heaven?" There was nothing better to offer than to refer them to the transfiguration when Jesus took Peter, James and John and perhaps as usual told them to follow him, and he took them up into the mountain, and was transfigured to show them his glory, and there appeared Moses and Elias unto them, Moses and Elias talked with him. Moses had been dead near fourteen hundred years and Elias about nine hundred years, this certainly is an evidence that there will be a heavenly recognition for those that love Him and keep his commandments. Then, we too have the evidence of our Savior, He was crucified, passed through death, was buried and came forth from the grave, and appeared to Mary Magdalene. He spoke to her and said, "Why weep thou?" He spoke to his disciples, and said unto them, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." He manifested himself to

many witnesses after his resurrection, then the beautiful thought comes, he told them he was going to leave them. He told them, "I go to prepare a place for you, and if I go I will come again and receive you unto myself that where I am there ye may be also."

Brother, sister, are we ready for that coming to go down the valley of the shadow of death?

CHASTISEMENTS PASS AWAY

Like Stephen and Peter,
Like Paul and like John,
We will have chastisements
As time passes on.

Hold fast to His word,
Have patience each day,
Praise the Lord that this, too,
Will soon pass away.

Life is like flowers –
They bloom and then die,
It's brief – so prepare
Your soul for the sky.

- Irene Stout

NEWS ITEMS

MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new zip code for Elder Rudy Cover is 95358 instead of 95351.

The new address of Bro. Fred Johnson is: P.O. Box 87, Pettisville, Ohio 43553.

GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

We at the Grandview, Missouri Congregation are looking forward to another Revival Meeting. The Lord willing, they will be August 16 through 23, with Lovefeast on the 22nd. Bro. David Aungst will be our Evangelist.

Sister Sandy Meyers, Cor.

WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, the Waynesboro Congregation looks forward to Revivals, September 6 through September 13, with Bro. Robert Carpenter as the Evangelist. We extend a hearty invitation to all to come and enjoy these meetings with us. Continue to pray for us and for these services.

Sister Janet Shaffer, Cor.

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

August 23 is the date chosen for our Harvest Meeting, if the Lord permits. Brother Ronald Marks will be our message bearer. An invitation goes to everyone.

It has been said the only treasure we can take with us to Heaven is our children. We are rejoicing with the Phil Gish family that their daughter, Michele, and son, Cody, have confessed Christ as their Saviour.

David Wagner, son of Daniel and Thelma Wagner, brother of Danny and Mary, was accepted into our midst upon his former vows.

Brother Len Wertz very ably has sown the Precious Seed during our revivals. Only God knows the eternal good that will be harvested. God is garnering in such as He will bring through the portals of Glory.

Sister Ruth Speicher, Cor.

THANK YOU

I want to thank everyone for their love, prayers and gifts during Titus' sickness and death. You also remembered me on my birthday with cards and gifts. The kindness and support of the church family and friends have been of great encouragement to me. May God bless and reward you richly in my prayer.

Sister Anna Keller

THANK YOU

We wish to thank each one for the wonderful support they've been both through prayer and financially at this time in our lives. We're sorry to report my health has not improved yet. We ask God for patience for whatever He has planned for us. Again, God bless each one of you.

Brother Bob, Sister Sheila,
Heather and Andrew Stauffer

A NOTE OF THANKS

I wish to thank each one who sent me birthday cards and gifts. Thank you and God bless you each one.

In Christian love,
Brother Charles F. Marks

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXX

AUGUST 15, 1992

NO. 16

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

JESUS, I MY CROSS HAVE TAKEN

Jesus, I my cross have taken, All to leave and follow Thee;
Destitute, despised, forsaken, Thou, from hence, my all shall be:
Perish ev'ry fond ambition, All I've sought, and hoped and known;
Yet how rich is my condition, God and heav'n are still my own!

Let the world despise and leave me, They have left my Savior, too;
Human hearts and looks deceive me; Thou art not, like man, untrue;
And, while Thou shalt smile upon me, God of wisdom, love, and might,
Foes may hate and friends may shun me; Show Thy face, and all
is bright.

Man may trouble and distress me, 'Twill but drive me to Thy breast;
Life with trials hard may press me, Heav'n will bring me sweeter rest.
O 'tis not in grief to harm me, While Thy love is left to me;
O 'twere not in joy to charm me, Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

Haste thee on from grace to glory, Armed by faith and winged
by pray'r;
Heav'n eternal days before thee, God's own hand shall guide thee
there.

Soon shall close thy earthly mission, Swift shall pass thy pilgrim days,
Hope shall change to glad fruition, Faith to sight, and pray'r to praise.

- Henry F. Lyte

GOALS

What are your goals? Do you have any goals in your material and physical life? Do you have Spiritual goals?

Goals are very important for those, who are trying to improve some aspect of their lives. There has to be a reason worthy of the effort that must be made to accomplish the needed improvement. If there is no goal, the required effort will not be made to secure it. While, at first, we might think that goals only apply to those who are business oriented or those who are interested in positive thinking teachings, actually, everyone needs goals. Little will be accomplished in life, if there are no definite targets to aim toward.

Looking back at our lives, we may not have had neatly organized goals but we can remember various objects or experiences, that we pursued, until we had succeeded in obtaining them. Although we may not have used the organized methods, that are often taught as a mysterious system of successful living, still there was in our minds and hearts, something that we were going after and we were willing to do what was necessary. There was no work too hard, no day too long, no journey too far, but what we would do it, if it meant getting closer to our goal.

As we pursued these goals, we may not have used special phrases or put pictures on the refrigerator, but we knew what we wanted in our mind. If that idea, was also in our hearts, then we pursued the goal with a great deal of enthusiasm. The more we were emotionally involved the greater our effort to obtain it. Without emotional involvement we may not have invested the effort, necessary to obtain the prize desired.

THE BIBLE MONITOR

AUGUST 15, 1992

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We may have goals of many different types. In fact, we can pursue several goals at the same time. Sometimes we have to decide which goals deserve the best of our efforts and which have to take a less important place in our lives. When we set priorities, we can accomplish the goals that are the most important to us. To improve our lives, it is necessary to leave our comfort zones and face some uneasy times.

Most goals concern self-improvement or acquiring possessions. The Christian's goals in this life should be higher than such self-centered objects as these. The Christian may have some material goals that he wishes to accomplish, but these should not be his primary goals. His primary goals should be Spiritual. His priority should be serving God.

Too many Christians, even in their Spiritual goals, seek religious objects, rather than serving God fully, which should be the goal. Christians have a tendency to speak of Heaven as the greatest desire of their hearts. Heaven is the Promised Land of Christians, where there will be no pain, sickness or sorrow, and there will be all the richness described in the Bible. But Christians should remember that the purpose for God's creation of man was to bring pleasure to Himself. Mankind as a whole have failed in fulfilling this original purpose. Only Christians have the potential of doing this to God's satisfaction. Yet many Christians have a greater desire for the outward manifestation of His pleasure than for the fulfillment of God's will. Surely God wants those who have pleased Him to enjoy the many blessings of Heaven. He would not have provided such a place if it had not been His will that they could also be there with Him.

It is a good thing to look forward to being in that place, but too often it is looked forward to as a place of retirement. It is thought that once the rigors of this life are over, there will be nothing else to do. But Heaven will but offer an eternity of opportunity for praising and serving God. There a perfect desire to do His will will dictate a continual serving Him in word, thought and deed. Because of the perfect state of those who inhabit the realms of Heaven there will be nothing to hinder their wholehearted service for Him. Sickness, poverty, sorrow, cares or worries will not be present to keep anyone back from doing his utmost for His Master.

Since fulfilling His will will be the Christian's work over There, he should be practicing during his earthly lifetime, now. It would seem appropriate to learn how to praise, honor and glorify God, while in this world, which is but a time and place of preparation for eternity. Now is a good time to be preparing, so when Heaven is a reality, the Christian will be at home, not only in the physical environment of Heaven, but also in being comfortable in the activities that he will participate in over There.

Now, what are your goals in this life? What are your Spiritual goals? What is your goal of highest priority?

1992 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from August 1, 1992 Issue

Sunday Evening

Elder Michael Wray opened. Where there is no vision the people perish. There is hope because we have the Gospel of God. That hope is found in Jesus Christ.

Elder Ray Reed. Colossians 1:18. "The Preeminence of Christ." May Christ be first in your life. Christ is the head of the Church, the body. Peter said, "The Christ the Son of God." Jesus said, "All power is given to me." Go ye and teach unto all the world. The Holy Spirit works in Christ. His Word is light to our feet and a blessing unto us. Christ is the first fruits. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. Even Jesus will submit to God the Father. There will be a new Heaven based on nothing but righteousness. Has the Spirit of the fruit cut off the old man? We must believe that Christ died and rose again. Give Christ first place in your life.

Bro. Mark Andrews, to the young people. John 14:6. "Real Life." Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh unto the Father but by me." Which direction are you going? You are looking for something that satisfies your soul. Jesus is the direction to take for salvation. Human beings search for something and that is peace. Jesus is the only way to happiness and real joy. Jesus is the way to Heaven. Jesus is the direction to take for salvation. Peace will come into your mind if you accept Jesus as your Savior. Young folks, many people have false doctrines to present to you. There are many lies in false doctrine. You can't find peace and contentment in this. Don't be deceived by false doctrines. There is only one truth, that is what Jesus said, "He is the truth and the life." Young people, what every one thinks may not be the truth. Jesus is the truth, He is the way. No one comes to the Father but through Jesus. Jesus died that you may have life and gain salvation. Satan knows what his end will be and that is why he tries to deceive you. The body means vitality, life and living soul. The soul sometimes may have hurts when you feel lonely. One third of our real life is made up physically. Two thirds of our real life is the Spiritual part of our life. Try to focus on the Spiritual part of your life. Jesus Christ is the truth and the life.

Elder Dennis St. John closed. What's going through our minds. Sometimes the life we live is not the real us. Many things shape our life. The way we live is often the result of our culture. Only one thing that will bring peace in our life is peace with God.

Monday A.M.

Bro. Wayne Burgess opened. Acts 19:13-20. We need to have a burning. One of the greatest sins is to be hearers of the Holy Word and to not do them. It's not enough to be convicted. We need to take that inspired Word and act upon it.

Bible Study-Adults — Prepared to Serve God - I Timothy 2:1-26.

Bible Study-Children — Jesus Raises Lazarus - John 11:1-46.

Bro. Frank Shaffer, Jr. Romans 8:31-39. "My Son Died For You." Christ has died for us. Do we realize the cost of our salvation? Christ died on the cross for you and me. If God be for us, who can be against us. God is always our friend. Jesus said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God." We always want to do everything else first before we seek first the Kingdom of Heaven. In our Christian walk of life we are too busy to work for the Lord. Are we putting our all into serving God? After we are baptized, we must continually try not to sin. Satan is out trying very hard to deceive us. The more we discipline ourselves the closer we can walk according to God's will. When we destroy sin, we are showing our love for Christ. If we sin and ask God to forgive us we can be forgiven. Are we that shining light unto the world? Are we willing to go out and work for Him? Are we living a life pleasing to Christ? We shall be rewarded for what we do. We ask the question, "What is love?" We must show love for Christ.

Bro. Ronald Marks closed. How much suffering have we done for Christ? Most of us would say not as much as I should have. What is our responsibility before God. What do we owe for our salvation? Let us live true and faithful to Christ.

Monday P.M.

Bro. Kenneth Wilkerson opened. II Corinthians 1:21-24. We must let God have control of us. Let the Spirit of God move in His loving way for us. Apostle Paul knew the battle of Satan.

Bro. Robert Lehigh. Matthew 25:14-30. "The Hidden Talent." God gives to us Spiritual talents. God has given us time, twenty-four hours a day. He has given us ability. He has given us people to work with. Whatever God has given to you do it to His glory. God has talents for us to use to His glory. Faithfulness is the key in using the talents. Be faithful to God in using your talents. Salvation is a free gift from God. Why did the Apostle Paul preach to the people? He had the love of Christ. The man with one talent buried it and hid it. He was cast into outer darkness, and his talent was taken from him. God is a loving Heavenly Father. The lazy Christian will have no good return from the Lord. God wants us to use our talents for Him. We must share our faith with others. We should remain faithful to God's Holy Word.

Bro. Ray Stuber. Philippians 2:15. "Keepers Keep on Keeping." Keep praying to the Lord. Jesus said, "The gates of Hell will not prevail against the Church." Keep our light house, the Church, that

it will not be destroyed. We need to keep the way of the Holy Word. We need the ordinances. We need to keep the love of God. The Lord is our keeper. He never slumbers. If we get our foundation firm and follow Christ we will not fall. Do not let the wool get over our eyes that we lose faith in Christ. The duties of Deacons and the Ministers are to teach the Holy Word and be faithful to the Lord. We must be careful of false doctrines. There is a lot of false versions of the Bible. Our same King James Version is the true book of God's Holy Word. All the versions that are out can get us confused and mixed up. Consolation helps us keep in a comfortable love. Compassion is an inward feeling towards someone. We need to keep the lenses shining and clean in our eyes. We must leave all the sins of the world behind us. Our outward appearance is a testimony for the Lord. Let us let our light shine to the world.

Bro. David Aungst closed. If the Lord speaks to you to tell someone about His salvation do not neglect this talent from God. Let us serve Him and do not worry what the world says. When the Lord speaks to us, lets do this right now and do not wait.

Monday Evening

Elder Virgil Leatherman opened. Isaiah 55:1-7. We are seeking for something. We are searching for God. It takes a deep thinking. We are searching for things. God will be found if we search with all our hearts.

Elder William Heisey. Luke 16:19-31. "Separation." If we are going to be separate from the worldly sins, we will seek the Lord. The rich man was separated from Lazarus. The rich man was in great torment. Think over our past life and do not wait till we come up to the bar of God. Think over the mistakes we make from time to time, and repent of them. The rich man went to the place of torment never to get out. When Christ prayed for the Apostles He wanted them not to be taken out of the world, but separate themselves from the sins of the world. We have our Bible, read it, so it can help us be separate from worldly sins. We must separate from worldly sins to be in line with Christ's teachings. There will be mockers in the last days when we separate ourselves from the wicked. You must build up yourselves and keep yourself in the love of Christ. We must have our eyes on that goal ahead. Let us who have separation from the world have no part in that sin round about us. It's easy to be lured into unrighteousness. We should be ready to say, "no" and follow Christ. We are chosen out of the world. If we are separated from the evils of this world let us live as a separate people. Every one must repent and be baptized and follow Christ. We should not be conformed to this world. The Holy Word says be ye transformed from this world. We can see the separation of the rich man and Lazarus. The rich man was in the place of torment and Lazarus was in Heaven, a life that was pleasing and joyful.

To be continued
Sister Alice Heisey

TREES OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Isaiah 61:3-4, "To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified. And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations."

Psalms 1:1-3, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither, and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

The Lord calls each of us, as born again children of God, to be trees of righteousness. There are many of us who mourn in Zion. We mourn because the truths of Holy Scripture are being ridiculed by those who have been appointed (by man) to be leaders within the earthly church. We mourn because we see the lost without any desire for a Savior. We mourn because we see hatred and strife replacing brotherly love among the faithful. We mourn because we recognize our own failures and lack of zeal.

But God promises us beauty for ashes. Bible burning is not as well known or as much practiced as in years gone by. But men "burn the Bible" in more subtle ways today. If we stand firm for the Word of God, He promises us beauty for ashes. God also promises us the oil of joy for mourning. Yes, we can have the victory over those who desire to ridicule the Holy Scriptures. Our oil of joy can be full and overrunning if we stand fast in truth and prayer. While we do not expect to see the great revivals prophesied by some, we can have the joy of seeing sinners saved from a burning Hell and backsliders reclaimed. In addition God promises us the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. Yes, our hearts are heavy when we think upon those things previously mentioned. But we can wear the garment of praise when we realize that God is faithful. When we contend for the Faith, desire to win the lost for Christ, seek to replace strife with love and desire to be more like Christ, God is glorified.

Then we can build the old wastes. But before we can build upon that which is completely destroyed we must remove the ruined structure. We cannot build upon false teachings and man-made theology as some desire to do. Sadly, we have almost lost the wisdom of our Brethren forefathers who saw a need to tear away the rotten timbers of false theology and start with fresh boards of New Testament Christianity. We can raise up the former desolations. Desolation speaks of being lonely, solitary or that which is uninhabited. Individuals can be in a crowd of thousands and still be

lonely. There are those who belong to a group but still desire to be solitary, or remain alone. We can reach the lonely and discouraged and offer them a new life in Christ. While it is sometimes necessary to stand along on a certain issue in certain circumstances, we should never be the one that is always trying to change what the church stands for. The problem is that many church members as well as those still in the world are still uninhabited. They have never received the gift of the Holy Spirit. And some who have do not allow Him to control their lives. With the power of the Holy Spirit we can repair the waste cities. Those churches that have grown cold and lifeless can be renewed. Then, and only then, can we repair the desolations of many generations.

In order to accomplish this and to receive the promises of our Lord we must seek for personal holiness. We cannot walk in the counsel of the ungodly. Young people should be especially careful who they choose to follow. The radio is full of false information. Magazines and books (many of them classified as Christian) contain information that can damn the soul if the advice is followed. We believe with all our heart if we need counsel in any area of our life we should go to our elders and ministers. We cannot stand in the way of sinners. The teaching that we must be like the world in order to win those who are in the world is from the pits of Hell. We cannot sit in the seat of the scornful. Most church splits, from our observation, have very little to do with church doctrine. Most of them are due to a few individuals who are scornful of those with whom they worship. While we love and respect our Brethren traditions, and we mourn at the loss of many of them, we do not believe they should be a reason for a church split.

Our delight should be in the Lord and the law of the Lord. Many falsely teach that the New Testament does not contain any "laws of the Lord." We pray that our Brethren will not cast aside our Scriptural practices just because some individuals decide they are no longer necessary. Let us desire to be like a tree planted by the rivers of water. Deep rooted in the Word of God. That we may bring forth HIS fruit in HIS season. Our efforts, without His blessing, will be in vain. His leaf, not our own, shall not wither. And whatsoever HE doeth shall prosper. Praise His Holy Name!

Let each of us desire to be trees of righteousness. The first act of obedience is to be planted in the waters of baptism for the remission of sins, that we may receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. (Acts 2:38) We must then desire to read God's Word and be true to its teachings.

A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE LIFE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL

Part 3

In reference to the work of the Apostle Paul, with the many he felt under compulsion to care for, he wrote a good share of the New

Testament. God knew the life Paul lived, and chose Paul to write so much of the Bible.

I have always liked to think the day he was struck down on the Damascus was his graduation day. In one day, an enemy, really, of Christ, Paul became His Chief Witness, especially assigned to the conversion of the Gentiles.

For most of the remainder of this article, I will try to give a very brief account of its history. Also, include a few of the choice and pointed remarks the Apostle included in these writings.

It would be a different world to live in, if we had more Apostle Pauls.

NEW TESTAMENT BOOKS PAUL WROTE...

1. Romans

Written A.D. 57-58 from Cornith. Subject matter, THE RIGHT-EOUSNESS OF GOD. The reading of Romans is a rewarding enriching experience. The following are a few excerpts taken from Romans, that I think are worthy of keeping in mind.

Romans 1:16-17, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

Romans 6:5, "For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:"

2. I and II Corinthians

Written A.D. 55-57 (most likely in A.D. 57) from Ephesus.

The two letters to the church at Corinth were intended for correction, unity, exhortation and benedictions. A few excerpts taken from I and II Corinthians.

I Corinthians 6:18, "FLEE FORNICATION..."

I Corinthians 2:9, "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."

I Corinthians 11. Read and re-read this chapter and PRACTICE IT. It is required of those claiming to be followers of Christ.

II Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

II Corinthians 7:10, "For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death."

II Corinthians 13:11, "Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you."

II Corinthians 13:12, "Greet one another with an holy kiss."

3. GALATIANS

Written about A.D. 57. It is assumed that Paul wrote this Epistle while on his third missionary journey. Some Bible commentators insist that it was written from Corinth. In this letter to the Galatians he stressed doctrine.

Galatians 1:9, "As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

Galatians 3:13, "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:"

Galatians 6:2, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ."

4. EPHESIANS

Ephesians was written A.D. 62 while a prisoner in his own hired house, at the time, visitors were always welcome. Christ and the Church were his main theme.

NOTE: Epaphroditus from Philippi had the Epistle to the Phillipians. Tychicus from Ephesus had the Epistle to the Ephesians. Epaphras from Colosse had the Epistle to the Colossians.

Combining these four Epistles together presents composite picture of Christ, the Church, Christian living and the glorious plan of salvation.

Ephesians 1:7, "In whom (Christ) we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of this grace;"

Ephesians 2:1, "And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;"

Ephesians 5:20, "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;"

5. PHILIPPIANS

Written A.D. 62. Philippi was a Roman Colony, a city that had an advanced culture, higher than any others, Paul visited. In writing this Epistle, Paul was passing on the Philosophy for Christian living. Also three other related subjects, pattern for Christian living, the power for Christian living and the prize or reward for living. He was writing what he knew — that there were crowns awaiting the saved.

Philippians 1:21, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

Philippians 2:5, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:"

Philippians 4:19, "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

To be continued
Bro. Paul R. Myers

SIXTY YEARS AGO

August 15, 1932

FORGETTING GOD

Harry Andrews

Does it seem strange that anyone should be writing on a subject of this kind in this enlightened age with all the knowledge that can be attained at the so-called Christian colleges and also from the secular? We need but to open our eyes and look out upon the busy hurrying world and in the professed churches and we can see just the reverse. People forgetting God. Especially was this a characteristic of the children of Israel. After God had led them out of Egypt away from the awful bondage of Pharaoh, and led them safely through the Red Sea, led them by day with a cloud and at night by a pillar of fire, clothed them in the wilderness, feeding them with manna (Angels food) and meat to the full, yet they forgot God and after a time set up idols to worship. Is it any wonder that God permitted only two souls to enter the promised land? They all had the same chance that Joshua and Caleb, but they failed to fit themselves for the opportunity because they forgot God. "... my people have forgotten me days without number." Jeremiah 2:32.

It is also encouraged by false teachers, Jeremiah had a true conception of this, "Which think to cause my people to forget thy name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbor, as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal." Jeremiah 23:27. In most fashionable churches and in some not so fashionable, teachers and ministers bring before the people most everything but religion, such as politics, science, evolution, world problems and many other topics that do not concern God's children.

Prosperity is another factor in people forgetting God. For instance, God has blessed them with a little of this world's goods and it seems that everything they turn their hands to do it makes them richer. But after a while they too forget God and make their possessions a God. It seems to me that the depression that is settling over this land and over the entire universe ought to make men to think well to the way of their going and to make them more humble.

Another item which we can't help but feel is causing people to forget God is the radio. It is true perhaps that there are some good sermons heard over the air and that there are some fine worship hours listening to. But where is the fellowship in a radio? How can we get the true spirituality that can only be received through

attending church service? Where we can listen to men of God proclaiming to us the unadulterated word of God in its purity and simplicity. And where we can blend our voices with others in singing praises to the God of our salvation.

We should not forget God in time of trouble or when some calamity comes upon us. We all know how Job was tried, yet he did not lose faith in God; and of Daniel, of the three Hebrew children, of Moses and so on down to our own brethren who faced every obstacle and difficulty seemingly, yet they stood firm and are still standing firm for the faith once delivered to the saints.

The consequences of this sin can be summed up in the following verses: "Beware that thou forget not the Lord thy God, in not keeping his commandments and his judgments and his statutes, which I commanded thee this day." Deuteronomy 8:11, "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God." Psalms 9:17. Certainly not a very happy ending is it? But God's word is true and His commands were given to be obeyed. May we do His will and remember Him continually that when He calls it may be said to us, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joys of thy Lord."

A LOOK AT SITUATION ETHICS

The philosophy of "situation ethics" or "the new morality" is very prevalent in today's world. Briefly, "situation ethics" is defined as morality or rules of life being governed by the conditions of the times. A revelant example is this: Since half of all marriages end in divorce, divorce (according to proponents of situation ethics) is morally right. Look at some others: Just about everyone wears a wedding ring; what can be wrong with it? Lots of women wear slacks and make up. Why can't I? The face is the bible is very clear on standards of dress. To the person who says "Nobody is going to tell me how to dress," the world will, or the Bible will. It is up to you.

Everyone, but young people in particular, can be influenced by the "everybody's doing it" philosophy. Christians have always been in the minority. Our young folks need to have for those heroes in their lives people who have overcome by the word of their testimony and by the Blood of the Lamb. John the Baptist set his face like a flint and stood against an overwhelming tide of evil. He stood against the King's sin and lost his life, but his testimony for good stands to this day.

Elijah stood against the King and Queen and their sin. God's instrument was victorious in the end and Elisha, who followed him, had a double portion of Elijah's spirit.

Situation ethics has for its partner, peer pressure. "Everyone is doing it," and if you do not, then you are odd in their sight. They make sport of you, and belittle you. You must conform or your life is made miserable. How destructive is peer pressure? Destructive enough to murder a classmate for his new pair of sneakers. Bad enough to kill a girl that makes fun of a boy in public. It isn't just economic. We could buy ten T-shirts for the price of the one with the famous singer on it. We could buy twice as much generic cereal compared with the brand-name item. It has now become life and death. People die for merchandise.

A democratic system of government always seems to degenerate into mob rule. Not too long ago our representatives in Washington discovered they could vote themselves raises in pay. Four years ago a candidate for President was photographed with a woman, not his wife. He was discredited and did not continue his race. Today a candidate is accused of infidelity and no one cares. Why? Because everyone is doing it.

This country is changing faster than we can keep track of. There is only one cure for situation ethics, and that is the Lord Jesus Christ. He is truly the Solid Rock: immovable, unchangeable, and immutable. How unsearchable are his riches, and how weak we are to understand His fullness. Governments come and go. God lifts up who He will and casts down who He will. We must build our house on the rock, and if we do we can let the storms blow. God will sustain us. God's Word never changes. The church must abide in God's Word. If we love God's Word, and love not the world and its merchandise, the church will be a light unto the world: not trying to follow the world.

Brother Lynn H. Miller
RD 2 Box 561
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FROM MOTHER'S SCRAPBOOK

"Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve."

The world is like a mirror
Reflecting what you do
And if your face is smiling,
It smiles right back to you.

Our life is like a keyboard. The Master's fingers will sweep over it and a weary world will catch notes of melody, as we pass along. The life that is in tune with God is keyed to the note of love.

The smaller we are, the more room God has.

A tear is like sand in the machinery of life. Faith is like oil.

The power of God knows no equal, the love of God cannot be measured.

"Take God into the details of your life."

Grace is God's riches, at Christ's expense.

Life is uncertain

Death is sure

Sin is the wound,

Christ is the cure.

Sin is man's need of salvation. Salvation is God's remedy for sin.

Love is always building up. It puts some lines of beauty on every life it touches.

Happiness is not perfected until it is shared.

Sister Barbara Stump

NEWS ITEMS

MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGES

The new address of Elder Otto Harris is HCR 75 Box 131, New Creek, West Virginia 26743.

BETHAL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Bethel Congregation is planning a revival meeting, providing the Lord has not returned by then, August 30 through September 6. Bro. Phil Gish, from the Englewood, Ohio congregation, will be our speaker. We invite you to come and worship with us.

We rejoice, in the Lord, to write also that Derrick Bross, son of Bro. Scott and Sis. Melinda Bross, Matthew Noecker, son of Bro. Paul, Jr. and Sis. Sheila Noecker, Julie Aungst, daughter of Bro. David and Sis. Neide Aungst and Dawn Aungst, daughter of Bro. Dale and Sis. Anita Aungst, were baptized the last of April after a one week revival meeting.

Sister Grace Reed, Cor.

DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

The Dallas Center Congregation invites each of you to our Lovefeast weekend with services beginning Friday, September 18 at 7:30 P.M. All day services are planned for Saturday and Sunday. Services begin at 10:45 Saturday morning with Communion services that evening.

We extend this invitation to our ministering brethren and especially to those of the third district.

Come and let us fellowship together during these special services!

Sister Becky Funk, Cor.

One complaining of the burden of life is represented as receiving instruction from an angel in a dream. She was taken to a place where lay myriads of crosses, and told that she might exchange her own for any she chose. She laid aside her own, and took up a jewelled cross, but soon began to totter under its great weight; and was glad to lay it down, and take up another of chased gold. This was even heavier than the other. She next chose a cross of flowers; but its thorns pierced her flesh, and became unbearable. She said, "Why need I have any cross?" The angel answered, "No cross, no crown." She soon discovered a plain cross, with the word "Love" engraved upon it in letters of gold, took it up joyfully, saying, "I can wear this." She found that she had chosen her own old cross again.

The wind which blows over and about the fruit trees does not apparently affect the roots and lower part of the trunk. All it does is to shake the branches, break off the rotten ones, blow away dead leaves, and shake off the ripe fruit for use. So, when trouble comes from God, the soul maintains the roots of its faith and love in the Rock of Ages unmoved. All that it does is to destroy what is superfluous and corrupt, and to draw from us the manifestation of the graces of the Spirit.

The very fact that you have troubles is a proof of His faithfulness; for you have got one half of His legacy, and you will have the other half. You know that Christ's last will and testament has two portions in it. "In the word, ye shall have tribulations;" you have got that. The next clause is, "In me, ye shall have peace." You have that too. "Be of good cheer: I have overcome the world." That is yours also.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR SEPTEMBER 1992

September 6 - Naaman and Leprosy - II Kings 5:1-27.

1. What caused Naaman to resist Elisha's request?
2. What was God desiring from Naaman?

September 13 - Elisha and The Syrians - II Kings 6:1-33.

1. Who was Elisha known as? verse 9.
2. What strength can we gain from verse 16?

September 20 - The Prophecy of Elisha Fulfilled - II Kings 7:1-20.

1. Are you grateful that you serve an "all knowing God"?
2. How do you respond when you hear, "Thus Saith the Lord"?

September 27 - The Shunamite Woman and the King - II Kings 8:1-29.

1. How did Elisha's reputation benefit the Shunamite woman?
2. Why did Elisha weep in verse 11?

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR SEPTEMBER 1992

September 6 - A Goodly Pearl - Matt. 13:44-46, Col. 2:6-10, Mal. 3:17.

1. What is the "goodly pearl"?
2. Who is the Merchant Man?

September 13 - Our Confession - Matthew 16:15-28.

1. Who do you confess Jesus to be?
2. What role does Christ really fill in your life?

September 20 - Our Mercy Showing - Matthew 18:21-35.

1. What is the price of forgiveness?
2. What is the price of unforgiveness?

September 27 - The Two Sons - Matthew 21:23-32.

1. Who do the two sons represent?
2. Which son fulfilled the father's will?

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BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 17

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

O LOVE THAT WILT NOT LET ME GO

O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give Thee back the life I owe,
That in Thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that follow'st all my way,
I yield my flick'ring torch to Thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in Thy sunshine's glow its day
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me thro' pain,
I cannot close my heart to Thee;
I trace the rainbow thro' the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to hide from Thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

- George Matheson

THEOPHILUS

Luke addressed both his Gospel and his Acts of the Apostles to the unknown Theophilus. He evidently held his friend in high esteem, since he sent both of these accounts to him, with the wish that they might prove helpful in underpinning and inspiring Theophilus in his Christian life.

While, undoubtedly, there was a real Theophilus to whom Luke addressed his writings, there remains the possibility that he was by the use of this name addressing these Biblical Books to all Christians. The name, "Theophilus," means "the lover of God" or "the friend of God". Hopefully each Christian would be able to lay claim to that name. So while he may have been simply addressing his friend, Luke also could be addressing all believers. The lessons of his two writings are certainly profitable for all believers. God has added His assent to them by including them in the canon of Holy Scripture.

Luke's Gospel is an account of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. How much poorer this world would be if we did not have his account of the events that led up to and included the great event at Bethlehem. This account is known world-wide and is often quoted, especially during the Christmas season, so even the unbelieving must give at least an uneasy assent to the basic truths of Christianity. Although their hearts and minds may be centered upon the gifts and partying of that season, still they must admit there is a connection with the birth of Jesus or there would have been no such occasion.

Beyond this best known part of Luke's Gospel, Jesus' ministry among men is developed. The lessons that He gave to those who

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listened and followed Him are presented so we too can know more about Him and His Heavenly Father and what we, as believers, might do to put His will into active use in our lives. We need to learn these lessons so we can be productive and obedient members of God's Family. In following the ministry of Jesus, Luke brought out many unique details that illustrated the universality of the Gospel. He wrote of the poor, the sick and the foreign and how they enjoyed the benefits of being near Jesus. He wrote of the lost sheep, the lost coin and the prodigal son.

Through these anecdotes, He spoke of Jesus' desire and willingness to accept all who would come to Him. Through Luke's account of Jesus and His teachings, Theophilus could know that a universal invitation to Spiritual life had been issued and universal instructions for Christian living had been established.

Luke's account of the early history of the Christian Church is instructive of the labors and sufferings that the early believers were willing to go through. Luke did not need to depend upon other's accounts of these events, for he had been an active participant in many of the journeys of the Apostle Paul. The early chapters of the Book of Acts are accounts of the Apostles' first attempts at preaching the Gospel of their crucified, but risen, Master to the people of Jerusalem. When Jesus had ascended to Heaven in their eyesight, He had told them to go forth beyond their homes and localities to neighboring provinces and eventually to the whole world with their message.

They bravely met much opposition in and around Jerusalem, before they began to go into other areas. Paul began to seriously extend the proclamation of the Gospel as he went on his several missionary journeys. Luke was one of his companions on several of these trips. By the end of Paul's ministry, the Gospel had been preached throughout the Mediterrean world. It had certainly gone far from Jerusalem and had grown greatly from the band of fearful believers hiding behind the locked doors of The Upper Room. Theophilus would have had not only an interesting account of the activities of Luke and the others in spreading the Gospel, but he would have felt the call to go and do likewise.

The writings of Luke are for all the "friends of God," that they might be instructed and inspired to not only live according to the teachings of Jesus Christ, but to also share that Gospel with others. Luke recorded the words of Jesus so we could know of His work and life. We can also learn there a lifestyle that would make us productive Christians. But productiveness does not end with what we accomplish just within our own lives. Productiveness also includes the sharing of those same teachings and events with others that they too could become productive. Christianity is not given to us to hoard, it is given to us that we might share it with others.

Would you like to be known by the name, "Theophilus"? Would that name be descriptive of your relationship with God? If that name were to be your name, would you not feel compelled to live as instructed by Jesus, through word and deed, and to share His Way with others?

God wants you to be His friend.

LIVELY STONES

I Peter 2:5, "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ."

It would be wonderful if we as a church could make a motion in General Conference that our leaders would be spiritual leaders and that our congregations would be spiritual churches. The problem is that no one can legislate spirituality. It has to begin in each individual heart and mind.

There is more to "church" than just membership in a social organization. Our hearts must be renewed by the Spirit of God through the atoning blood of Christ. We have to be new creatures in Christ Jesus. Our old, sinful lusts, our former things must be done away with and new, vibrant Christianity must replace them. "There's no longing for the things of this world – they've taken wings!"

Praise God for a living, energetic experience with the Lord that saves, keeps, and satisfies the soul! People notice it. Something that is alive makes every one around it conscious of it. A moving stream is clear and cool and pure. You can hear it from afar and you can see to its very bottom. Walking through an apple orchard you are first taken by its beauty, then the fragrance, then the taste. A living Christian never needs to purposefully draw attention to himself. His state of being alive will remind others of their deadness.

Some will be attracted to the beauty and fragrance of the Christian. Others will be repulsed. One of our neighbors, an ardent sinner, was never too friendly to us, but one day, in a confrontation with my wife he openly admitted that his mother had been a Christian and he believed that there was something to it after all. This is not to say that he accepted the Christian way, but at least he acknowledged it.

Dead things give off a fragrance, too. But it is not desirable to most creatures. Dead things decay and become corrupted. Even those creatures that eat dead things are repulsive to other creatures. A buzzard will even pick the dead branches of a live tree to roost upon. They even look dead themselves: all wrinkled and shriveled.

If we have Christ living in our heart, then we are alive indeed. We will want to do good, not to just gain Heaven, but because of the Spirit of Christ within us. I talked to a man, not too long ago, who loves to jump out of airplanes. He will jump at about 10,000 feet, freefalling for 8,000 feet, then he will open his parachute. When asked why he does this, he said, "So I know I'm still alive." Many folks need thrills and chills to prove to themselves that they still have life in them. This sense of adventure and of placing life at risk is common with many people. Danger opens the eyes and the lungs, so people feel truly alive. Driving in a fast car or gliding down a ski slope, however, cannot compare with the Christian experience. Being alive in the body is far different from being alive in Christ. There is no comparison. If any man be in Christ, he is a NEW creature. Old things have passed away. Behold, all things have become new. Praise God, NOTHING is the same when Christ enters the heart. The satisfaction of the flesh is only temporary, but "whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have EVERLASTING LIFE."

Brother Lynn H. Miller
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A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE LIFE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL

Part 4

6. Colossians

Written A.D. 62 (one of the prison Epistles) Colosse was one hundred miles east of Ephesus. Colosse, located in southwest Phrygia in Asia Minor near Laodicea, was beset with all types of oriental doctrines and beliefs. Epaphras was one of the ministers there.

Colossians emphasizes "That Christ is the fulness of God." Chapters 1 and 2 are decidedly doctrinal. Chapters 3 and 4 instruct about living a practical Christian life. Christ is the theme and the periphery of the circle where Christian living is the center. The message of this epistle can best be understood by comparing it with other prison Epistles. It is impressive that Paul, a prisoner, did not loiter his time away and feel sorry for himself. His mind was on others and especially those who proclaimed Christ. Hence, His much writing from prisons.

Colossians 1:10, "That we might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, increasing in the knowledge of God."

Colossians 2:6, "As we have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him."

Colossians 4:2, "Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving."

I Thessalonians

Written A.D. 52-53. Thessalonica was a Roman colony and very important in the life of the Roman Empire. It was located about one hundred miles west of Phillipi and north of Athens approximately fifty miles. It was the chief city of Macedonia.

The church in Thessalonica was a model church. This Epistle the first written by Paul. It is assumed that it was written from Corinth on his second missionary journey. Much of his Epistle concerns the second coming of our Lord.

I Thessalonians 2:19, "For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?"

I Thessalonians 3:8, "For now we live, if we stand fast in the Lord."

I Thessalonians 5:6, "Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober."

II Thessalonians

Written A.D. 52-53. The second Epistle followed closely after the first. There had been circulated in the church at Thessalonica a letter or report supposedly coming from the Apostle Paul, which greatly disturbed the church. The report claimed that Christ had already come and had taken His Saints with Him. The Apostle attempted to allay their fears. That gathering together is yet to come in the future.

The teaching in I Thessalonians, is that the saints who have died will have part in Christ's coming for His saints living. In II Thessalonians, it is that saints who are alive will not have part in the Great Tribulation. He writes considerably concerning the second coming of our blessed Saviour.

II Thessalonians 1:11, "Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power."

II Thessalonians 2:15, "Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our Epistle."

II Thessalonians 3:13, "But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing."

I Timothy

Written about A.D. 64. The Apostle Paul was released from prison between A.D. 64-67. It was during this time (A.D. 64-67) that Paul wrote the First Epistle to Timothy. At the same time, he wrote to Titus, also.

They were young ministers who shouldered great responsibilities. He was writing to encourage them. He wanted to aid the work they were responsible for in preaching the Word.

The general theme in I Timothy was government and rules in the Church. "Doctrine," occurs eight times. "Godliness," occurs eight times. "Teach," and "teacher," occur eight times. "Good," occurs twenty-two times. I Timothy is often relied on in organizing a new congregation.

In this book FAITH, PUBLIC PRAYER, the WOMAN'S PLACE IN THE CHURCH and the CHURCH'S OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES are presented.

I Timothy 1:8, "But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully."

I Timothy 2:5, "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."

I Timothy 4:14, "Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery."

II Timothy

Written A.D. 67. The following is the probable chain of events during his last years.

A.D. 58 – Paul's arrest in Jerusalem.

A.D. 61 – His arrival in Rome.

A.D. 61-63 – His first Roman imprisonment.

A.D. 64-67 – His release. He writes I Timothy and Titus from Macedonia.

Paul wrote ABOUT apostasy. Webster defines it as the total desertion of faith. Apostasy is heresy. It is completely erroneous. Paul contends there is coming (on the way) a apostate which will nigh blot out the "Faith" from the earth. This prediction is in complete agreement with Christ's own sad words, "When the son of man cometh, will he find faith on the earth."

Regardless of what this generation believes or our modern preachers preach, WE ARE NOW FACING THE HARD COLD FACTS OF HISTORY, PROPHECY AND THE EVENTS OF THE DAY. What things are occurring world wide demonstrate the accuracy of Paul. II Timothy is Paul's death message to the

Church. It bears a note of sadness, not noted in other Epistles. While others found fault with his writing and preaching, Paul felt he had done God's will, when he said, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course (the work God assigned him).

II Timothy 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

II Timothy 3:12, "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

II Timothy 4:2, "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine."

To be continued

Brother Paul R. Myers

1992 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from August 15, 1992 Issue

Monday Evening

Elder Rudy Shaffer. II Corinthians 12:1-11. "Used or Refused of God." Used of God when one is true and faithful. One can be refused by God because of some sin. What is the purpose of life? What makes our life useable by God. We need a true conversion led by the Holy Spirit of God. We need a consistent prayer life and the ability to speak. The biggest hindrance in our life is when we are not led by the Holy Spirit. The Apostle Paul had a thorn in the flesh. He depended on self. The Apostle Paul gave himself fully to Christ and went to work faithfully for Christ. Apostle Paul found the very blessing that made his life useable. We dare not think we are independent and not put God first. We can do nothing without the help of the Lord. The moment we find self in human flesh God cannot use us. We must put God first. The Apostle Paul said, "I crucify my flesh daily." When we look to the Word of God we can find faith and power. What did the thorn in the flesh provide for the Apostle Paul? It gave him full dependence on God. The Apostle Paul found a labor and peace of satisfaction in serving the Lord. He preached the full gospel. He saw the need of the labors of the Master. Are we depending upon God or are we depending on self? We need an almighty God. We need to depend upon Him. If we start relying on self we are relying on weakness without the Almighty God.

Elder Harley Rush closed. Seek the Lord. Willing to separate ourselves from the world. Jesus said "My grace is sufficient for thee."

Tuesday Morning Worship

Elder Michael Wray. Matthew 9:9-14. Maybe our problems are within us. Sometimes we fail to look to God. The Lord said, "I am not come to call the righteous, but the sinners." That should be the mission of the church.

Tuesday A.M.

Bro. Alvin Chupp opened. Psalms 32:1-6. Proverbs 24:28. We are alot of landmarks. What can we do? Help someone in need. Share God's Holy Word with others.

Bible Study—Adults - Psa. 40:1-17. "God's Deliverence of the Distressed."

Bible Study—Children - Acts. 27. "A Powerful Storm Shipwrecks Paul."

Bro. Wayne Burgess. Matthew 16:21-28. "Only I Stand Away." We all desire to do right. We must deny ourselves at times. We must take up His cross and follow Him. Let us look into our own heart. So often we can't see the problems ahead because it is ourselves. The unbelieving world had God's Holy Word shared with it by the Apostle Paul. In the area of humility, we must never try to be more than what we are. In the area of relationship the Apostle Paul was a disciple of Christ. The Apostle Paul realized Mark would do good in the ministry and be a worker for Christ. Christ was betrayed by Judas with a kiss. No man has the right to change the Holy Word in any way and say it isn't necessary to believe all of it. The children of Israel turned away from God many times and displeased Him. God is faithful and just. He will not neglect us. If God be for us who can be against us.

Bro. Ronald Marks closed. If God be for us, who can be against us?

Tuesday P.M.

Bro. Paul Nell opened. Hebrews 13. The Government protection allows us to worship God in our church. Pray for the President of the United States and the Congress that they will make laws suitable for Christian people.

Bro. Galen Shelly. Daniel 12:25-30. "Making a Lasting Impact." An impact for a Christian is to work for Jesus. Our only desire is to change our life for Christ and to work for Him. King Nebuchadnezzar asked Daniel to interpret his dreams. Daniel had the opportunity to introduce the King to God. Daniel related the dream to King Nebuchadnezzar. We have the keys like Daniel to bring them to salvation. Parents teach your children God's Word. Our children today need real answers direct from God's Holy Word. Daniel was in this court. Daniel had great ability and faith in God. He was a great man of God. Today Jesus can stir the heart of young friends. We need to serve Jesus the rest of our lives.

Bro. Mark Andrews closed. Let us make an impact to draw some soul closer to Christ.

Tuesday Evening

Elder Henry Walker opened. Revelation 13:8. Christ knew He was going to have to go to the cross after He had that crown of thorns put upon His head. Jesus knew He would be nailed on the cross. God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son.

Elder Milton Cook. Acts 17:1-9. Missionary Sermon - "A World Turned Upside Down." There has been a tremendous change in the world. Countries are making many changes. Even the moral change has turned the world upside down. The Thessalonians got together by the power of God and made a great change. Christ sent forth His Apostles to Thessalonica. The Apostle Paul preached to them one thing especially that Christ died and rose again by which we gain salvation. Our message today should be just the same as when the Apostle Paul preached to the Thessalonians. We find only a few believed the Apostle Paul in Thessalonica. It was very discouraging to them because they found they were rejected. We have been called to bring the Word of God to the people just as Christ wanted the Apostles to go out and spread the Gospel. Are we willing to count the cost? Is there not a cost? The cost may be our neighbors or many other things. What do we need to do to turn the world upside down? It may be a sign of God's power. What will we do as missionaries. If this world is not what it should be, there is only one answer, we have the same Gospel that the Apostle Paul preached to the Thessalonians. We must turn our minds upside down. We must look to Jesus Christ and the right relation to our Heavenly Father.

Elder Hayes Reed closed. Revelation 14:11. We should be willing to present the Gospel to this dying world.

Wednesday Morning Worship

Elder Harley Flory. Matthew 9:34-38. Jesus went about teaching the Gospel to the people. We should have love and compassion for those who are about us.

Sister Alice Heisey

A DIVIDED KINGDOM

Amos 7:16-17, "Now therefore hear thou the word of the LORD: Thou sayest, Prophesy not against Israel, and drop not thy word against the house of Isaac. Therefore thus saith the LORD; Thy wife shall be an harlot in the city, and thy sons and thy daughters shall fall by the sword, and thy land shall be divided by line; and thou shalt die in a polluted land: and Israel shall surely go into captivity forth of his land."

These strong words from the prophet Amos were spoken to a literal Israel and we believe found literal fulfillment. However, they

also give an alarming symbolical picture of the Church from the first century down to our own present time.

We are instructed to "hear thou the word of the Lord." The New Testament is full of warnings and instructions for believers. Those who wrote and taught these warnings were not always popular with those within the established church. Soon after the death of the Apostles the leaders of compromising Christianity took control and the earthly Church became almost completely apostate.

We have those who are saying today, "Prophecy not against Israel." In our day this becomes, "Never say anything negative when you are speaking about the church." Then they add, "and drop not thy word against the house of Isaac." In our day, "If you see something wrong within the local assembly look the other way."

When the first century church was founded they considered themselves to be a Brotherhood. As a brotherhood they had most things in common. If a question arose about the theology or practice, the teachings of the apostles, as they were taught by the Lord Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, were used to settle the issues. As time went on the church became more organized. It was not long until popular opinion replaced the authority of the apostles. The result of this was a departure from the Faith.

"Therefore thus saith the Lord." God warns us in His Holy Word what the results will be if we ignore His teachings. When God speaks it is not always pleasant to our ears. "Thy wife shall be an harlot in the city," is not something we wish to hear. Likewise, the modern church refuses to acknowledge the fact that many have become spiritual harlots. As a part of the Church they are the bride of the Lord Jesus Christ. Yet they have run after the world and its ways.

"And thy sons and thy daughters shall fall by the sword." As each generation passed the earthly church became more like the world. In our day almost everything you can find in the world has been "baptized" and has not become a part of the earthly church. We believe this has resulted in spiritual destruction. We will allow God to judge the final results of "worldly christians," if there be such a thing, but certainly the witness of the earthly church has fallen by the sword of Satan. The fact that some churches are full to overflowing is not a sign that they are full of the truth of God.

"And thy land shall be divided by line." God has drawn the line. We are not free to cross over at our will. The kingdom is divided. We must decide if we wish to be on the side of God's truth or on the side of worldly compromise. Those in favor of a brotherhood are becoming few in number while those in favor of being an organization are growing in leaps and bounds.

"And thou shalt die in a polluted land." We read in II Timothy 3:13 "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse,

deceiving and being deceived." The earthly church is polluted with false teachings and false teachers. From the gamut of liberalism to so called fundamentalism the false teachings are a stench in the nostrils of God!

"And Israel shall surely go into captivity forth of his land." Satan has the earthly church in captivity. God called the prophet Amos to give a warning to literal Israel as he had called many prophets before Amos. Amos recognized his weakness. He said, "I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son; but I was an herdsman, and a gatherer of sycomore fruit." God is calling "prophets" today to warn the earthly church that they are heading for eternal judgement. We believe God is giving the same message today that He gave Stephen to give to the religious men of his day. "Ye stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost; as your fathers did, so do ye." He goes on to tell them that their fathers persecuted and slew the prophets. We cannot expect to become popular by standing for the Truth.

We do not believe that the Brethren faith holds all those who will be a part of the redeemed in Heaven. But we do believe our Brethren faith is based on the truth of Holy Scripture. We believe we are a part of the divided kingdom which lies on the side of God and His Word. If we lose our historic teachings we are in danger of the results given by the prophet Amos. The blood of Jesus Christ is needed to cleanse from all sin. The way of obedience is God's pathway to Heaven. The final division will be Heaven and Hell. Where will you spend eternity?

Brother James M. Hite
816 E. Birch St.
Palmyra, PA 17078

SIXTY YEARS AGO

September 1, 1932

FELLOWSHIP

Ida M. Helm

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers; for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness, and what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?" II Corinthians 6:14-15.

There are many different kinds of fellowship in the world. Fellowship implies mutual companionship, harmony, oneness of interest and sympathy. There is a kind of fellowship between gamblers and between prize fighters even while they match cunning and skill with each other. There is a fellowship between politicians, although it is

said, "Politics make strange bed-fellows." There is fellowship between teachers, between farmers, between physicians though some excel in proficiency and efficiency. There is a fellowship between lodges, fraternities, orders and different organizations that exclude Christ's name from their ritual in deference to unitarians, Jews, and so forth, and not a few ministers and other professed Christians fellowship with them, thus they are unequally yoked together with unbelievers, they do it in defiance of God's express command. "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers."

God questions of man, "Can two walk together except they be agreed?" Enoch, Elijah and Noah each walked with God because they agreed with God. Christians are called unto the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ, the Lord of life and glory. Can they fellowship with organizations that fellowship bootleggers, unbelievers, infidels, Catholics, Jews, those who take the name of God in vain, those who fellowship the world? Listen to God's word, "What fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? What communion hath light with darkness?" Even in the church there can be no fellowship between the spiritually minded and the worldly minded. Why is it we hear people complain of a lack of power in the church? Christ is the power house of the Christian church. If Christians fellowship with lodges or fraternities or orders that ignore and reject Christ's name, they need not wonder why they lack power. Jesus said, "I send the promise of My Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high." Luke 24:49.

At Pentecost Peter speaking by the holy spirit said of Jesus, "Having received the Father the promise of the holy spirit He hath shed for this (power). The holy spirit is the gift of the Father sent by Jesus, our Saviour." Christians cannot fellowship with unbelievers and ungodly people and still have the power of the holy spirit sent by Jesus the Son of God. Can those who believe in Christ and accept him as the only begotten Son of God, be one in Christ with those who reject Christ?

We read of people of different persuasions uniting for religious service, some of them accept part of God's Word and obey it and reject the other part as non-essentials. Some say, "Only believe and you will be saved." Some say part of the Bible was intended for only the people to whom the writing was directed at the time it was written, it was not intended for us to obey it. If men begin to reject part of God's word as non-essential, how can they tell where to stop? Listen! "All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished to all good works." II Tim. 3:16-17. "The

profitableness of scripture consists in its teaching, convincing, correcting, training. It is profitable both for faith and piety." Dummelow's Commentary.

Tell me! How can those who profess to obey Christ in all things worship God acceptably with a heterogeneous bunch of "just as you think" and worldly people? Jesus in his great high-priestly prayer prayed thus for his followers: "That they all may be one; as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in Us; that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me." John 17:21. If we fellowship with bootleggers, followers of Madam Fashion, infidels and in short, with the unbelieving world, can we bring the world to believe that Christ was sent of God? We must have more than empty husks to offer those whom we would win for Christ. Whatever fellowship there may be in these conglomerate gatherings is out of Christ, not in him. It behooves the church of Christ to raise the voice of warning as to these unchristly gatherings. Our petitions, our songs, our prayers are directed to Christ, He is the only channel through which we can reach the Father. For a professed Christian to stoop to the low, ridiculous things that are sometimes done in the name of religion is but to mock Christ. I read of a minister that introduced moving pictures into the Sunday evening service in order to get a crowd. Is not the sweet, old story of Jesus and his love sufficient for the world lost in sin?

I know of a minister that served refreshments at the prayer meeting to induce people to attend. Jesus tells us that life is more than meat and the body than raiment. Jesus said to the 5,000 people that he fed in the wilderness and they sought him the following day, "Ye seek Me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves and were filled." John 6:26.

If we would have the fellowship of God and His people we must obey Him in all things and keep ourselves unspotted from the world.

"Ye cannot serve two masters." Jesus.

OBITUARY

LESTER M. FLORA

Bro. Lester Flora departed this life for eternity on February 20, 1992 at the age of 82. He was born July 29, 1909, the son of Reuben and Ellen (Fisher) Flora, in Van Buren County, Michigan. He was married to Sis. Lillie Brady on November 22, 1936. He was a member of the Goshen, Indiana Congregation.

Sis. Lillie survives with one brother, John Flora of Goshen. He was preceded in death by his parents and five brothers.

Funeral services were held at the Yoder-Culp Funeral Home on February 22 with Bro. Terry Gunderman officiating. Burial was in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Goshen, Indiana.

NEWS ITEMS

PLEVNA, INDIANA

The Plevna Congregation plans a Revival September 20 through 27 with Bro. Kenny Wilkerson of Bethel, Pennsylvania as Evangelist. Our Lovefeast will be September 26 at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. Other evening services at 7:30 p.m.

Also our Harvest meeting is planned for October 18. You are cordially invited to all these services.

Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.

LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, we are looking forward to a ten day revival, October 9th through 18th. Bro. Ray Stuber from the Shrewsbury Congregation plans to bring God's Word to us.

Come and pray for these meetings.

Sister Dorcas Myers, Cor.

DAYTON, VIRGINIA

The Lord willing, the Dayton Congregation plans a revival meeting, October 14th through the 18th. Bro. Scott Bross from Bethel Congregation will be bringing the messages.

Our Lovefeast will be on October 17th.

We invite anyone who can to come.

Continue praying for our small congregation.

Sister Mary Rounds, Cor.

THANK YOU

We extend our thanks and pray God's best blessings upon all who remembered us with prayers, cards and letters on our 50th Wedding Anniversary.

William and Larena Carpenter

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXX

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NO. 18

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

FREE FROM SIN

The bird let loose in eastern skies,
When hastening fondly home,
Ne'er stoops to earth her wing, nor flies
Where idle warblers roam;
But high she shoots through air and light
Above all low delay,
Where nothing earthly bounds her flight,
Nor shadow dims her way.

So grant me, God, from every care
And stain of passion free,
Aloft, through Virtue's purer air,
To hold my course to thee!
No sin to cloud, no lure to stay
My soul, as home she springs;
Thy sunshine on her joyful way,
Thy freedom in her wings!

- Thomas Moore

JESUS' PRIORITIES

From the moment of birth, each of us have entered upon the journey that will lead to death. We do not know the length or other details of that journey. Sometimes because of sickness or other circumstances, we do become aware of our soon departure from this life. If wise, we then take a more serious look at life. The cheap, giddy and artificial lose their importance. When life is soon to be over, we will be interested in the things that have to do with Eternity. Our time will be occupied with those ideas and works that will be approved by God and what would be helpful to those who are dear to us. We want to leave a valuable legacy to our families and friends. Money and other earthly objects will pale as they are compared to Heaven and the Hereafter.

Jesus spent approximately three years training and teaching His disciples. He had much to teach them, so He used various means to get their attention and to convey His message. He knew He had a very definite reason for being on Earth. He came to die for the sins of the human race.

He tried to prepare His disciples for the time when He would be taken from them, but they, either, would not or could not comprehend what He was trying to tell them. He set His face to go up to Jerusalem, even though He knew it would not be an enjoyable time. The few days He was there preceding His crucifixion were days of serious teaching. There was so much to talk about and do, but so little time. The events between Palm Sunday and Good Friday were focused on Eternity.

The lessons presented at this time were of utmost importance; a few of them will illustrate Jesus' devotion to His duty and doing good for those whom He taught.

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Early in the week He cleansed the Temple. He drove out those who had made it a house of merchandise and a den of thieves. His house was and is to be free from commercial stain. It is to be a place of equality, where the rich and poor can meet on equal footing. It is not to be a place devoted to money raising schemes, but a place where the Gospel is preached freely to all who will listen. It is to be a place of fellowship, where all conditions of mankind can meet without reference to worldly status.

He spoke quite bluntly of the scribes and Pharisees' hypocrisies. They were well versed in the scriptures, but not in a way that they could share with the common people, whom they had come to despise because they were not trained in the theological intricacies so important to the Pharisees. They knew the Word of God, but had not translated it into their daily lives. It remained only an academic knowledge. They made the way of serving God a very difficult and demanding way, without love or joy.

Jesus spent a very precious time with His Apostles in the upper room where He gave them many lessons during His last meal with them. He used this meal, not as an irregular celebration of the Passover, but to institute the Lovefeast. Through the elements of this service He taught them humble service and love, as He washed their feet and commanded them to do the same. He taught them of fellowship as they ate a meal together from common vessels. This meal also looked forward to a future meal to be served in Heaven, which spoke of hope of a better life beyond this time of testing and sorrow. The communion as the highest of the elements of this service spoke of fellowship and a relationship with God. Through the emblems of His broken body and spilt blood, the new close relationship with His Heavenly Father was pictured. All who would participate in this service would be drawn together as a body of God's children.

On the way to Gethsemane He would speak to them of a better Home awaiting the faithful and of an inward peace that would pervade the believers, even in the midst of severe difficulties. He could also comfort their troubled hearts by telling them of the coming of the Holy Spirit. They would not fully realize this source of power and comfort, until after He had left them.

They were not as intense as He was, so they slept, while He prayed, seeking the sustaining power He would need to face the next day's events. They just did not understand all that was happening to them, during this time of intense training.

He realized that the time was short, so He put as much into those days as they could possibly contain, even though they would not realize all He had for them until later.

Realizing that we are upon a pathway that is leading directly toward death, we should be interested in the serious and eternal affairs of preparing ourselves during this life for the one to come.

Have you paid attention to the lessons that Jesus taught and in the sacrifice He willingly gave for each of us? Get your priorities in the same order that Jesus did.

TEACHING: FUTURES BROKERAGE

From the time that I was old enough to present a passbook to a bank teller, to the present, investment has interested me. As enthralling as investment of financial resources is, there is investment which every Christian teacher should be much more interested in. You must invest in the lives of your students so that "... they may lay hold on eternal life." (1 Timothy 6:19). You are an investment broker of the future and the dividends are tremendous!

"Me? An investment broker?" You respond in amazement, "All I do is teach." You may call yourself a teacher, but the Lord has entrusted you with the greatest resource on earth: human lives. The pupils which pass through your classroom will be permanently affected by the investment you make in them.

As you invest, remember that not all investments have the same rate of yield. You may get a desired response from one child with minimal effort while spending hours with another child and receiving far from the desired result. Take into consideration the assets and liabilities of each child, and work accordingly. Just as you cannot expect to receive the same return on investments in gold and copper, you cannot expect all children to accomplish the same things in life. If your investing is done wisely, you can be proud of the accomplishments in each life.

In addition to realizing that each investment will not return at the same rate, you must also realize that each investment must be made individually. The adage "don't put all your eggs in one basket" is true in teaching as well as investment. Each scholar who sits under your instruction will have to be dealt with in a different manner. You may have to invest a lot of prayer in a rebellious student or much trust in a child who has a low self-esteem. Incentives and discipline must be tailor-made for each student. Remember that you are a broker in the future and that it is your responsibility to bring each child to his highest potential in God's kingdom.

A very important principal that is often forgotten when investing is that not all investments mature at the same time. You will not see immediate results in every child. Some children need only a gentle reminder and a pat on the back to turn them around, but others will need the investment of countless hours and agonizing difficulty before any progress is made. It is possible that you will never see any positive results, or it may be years later when they return to thank you for the part you played in their development.

Knowing basic principles of investment only sets the stage for the actual process. The most important commodity to be invested is time. If you expect to reap great dividends in the lives of your pupils, you must be willing to invest hours of time. An investment of time necessitates a commitment to long-range goals. The best way to change the life of a child is to show him God's love in your life, and the best way to show a child love is to spend time with him.

As you enter your classroom each day, remember that you are not "just a teacher" but that you are a very important element in the maturing of each student. Approach your investment with a deep commitment to seeing each child take his place in God's family. Invest wisely, and patiently wait to see the dividends which God will multiply because of your careful brokerage of time.

Sister Mary Alice Skiles

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The Conservative Christian and GLOBAL EDUCATION

America is hanging in the balance of judgment and if she does not wake up and respond to God's teachings, she may be in line for some major disasters. If no Godly response is forthcoming... collapse seems assured!

Atheism and SECULAR HUMANISM abound in our schools and throughout most of our society and these abominations are nothing short of blasphemy. One of our great concerns should be the battle for the minds and lives of our youth in the public schools. Do you suppose there is some reason why a recent survey indicated that, in Chicago, forty-six percent of the public school teachers have opted to send their own children to private schools? Many conservative Christians seem to have settled into the world's education system and have become comfortable in Egypt.

We all desire an excellent education for our children. We want them to be able to compete with students from all areas of education in math, science and in other fundamental areas. Excellence would seem to infer that a person could be recognized by his peers... would be special according to the world's standards. But excellence for the Christian... relative to Education... should mean that a boy or girl will be prepared to be God's man and woman wherever he or she is led to live and function as a part of God's family. The most fearful concept to become a part of education in our time is not just immorality in the public schools, not satanism, not an over-emphasis on sports... but it is GLOBALISM.

Global education is an approach to learning that promotes a greater understanding of the world as an "interconnected aggregate of human and natural systems." These systems are said to operate within a "single planetary life-support system on which the destiny of human-kind depends." Global education says it will promote LONG TERM HUMAN SURVIVAL, by developing greater respect and cooperation with all man-kind and a keen concern for our environment which we depend on for our existence." If you look closely, this can well be equated to "Babylonianism"... one world doing its own thing with utter disregard of God and His Word.

Global education derives its base from the "World Core Curriculum" created by Robert Muller who has been intricately tied to the United Nations. If you look at current public school curriculum, you find these humanistic, Global ideas throughout its content. Muller says that "Scientists have come to the end of their wisdom. Humans are simply incapable of grasping the vastness of creation with all its mysteries." Thus, he introduces "Spiritual Education." He says that science is a part of the spiritual process and it is a transcendence and elevation of the human race into an even vaster knowledge and consciousness of the Universe and of its unfathomable DIVINE character." It was Muller's goal to have youth to be taught a "new" type of religion in which the creation is divine and individuals make decisions as "masters." (Totally New Age!)

Under the banner of global education, we get the promotion of environmentalism, vegetarianism, pacifism, unity of mankind, world population control, evolution, Eastern religion and the worship of Gaia. These themes are all under the "Gaia hypothesis." This hypothesis teaches that the earth is as one living organism and the family of man is merely the unfolding network of her consciousness. This thinking is typical of pre-Christian mythology. The Greeks gave her the name "Gaia" ... or "Mother Earth." Gaia is said to incorporate the characteristics of both the male and female; she represents feeling and thinking, body and mind. She is a "symbol of the coming design." This is New Age religion and is powerfully dangerous to Christian youth.

It is virtually impossible to escape the global education idea in public education. It is planned into the curriculum from kindergarten through high school.

As a result of this training, humanism has infiltrated our homes. Radio programs promote it. Television is absolutely filled with it. Ted Turner produced a show about saving the planet and shows Gaia bringing five magic rings to five special children. These children are given the task of bringing global peace to planet earth. The children battle garbage, save the rain forests and are praised by the goddess Gaia as good and faithful servants.

Watch for the signs of global education in your curriculum. We are warned in God's Word to be aware of false teachers and false philosophies. Truth is being exchanged for a lie and it can only lead the believer to confusion and possible destruction.

Brother Len Wertz

CASTING STONES

II Kings 3:24-25, "And when they came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and smote the Moabites, so that they fled before them: but they went forward smiting the Moabites, even in their country. And they beat down the cities, and on every good piece of land cast every man his stone, and filled it; and they stopped all the wells of water, and felled all the good trees: only in Kirharaseth left they the stones thereof; howbeit the slingers went about it, and smote it."

John 8:7b, "...He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her."

Acts 7:57-59, "Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

While we are not aware of anywhere in the world today where stoning is still practiced for capital punishment, there is plenty of spiritual stoning being practiced. And, in the final analysis, this is not entirely wrong or evil. When we are in battle with the Moabites, who are symbolic of false religions and teachings, we must cast our spiritual stones. We must beat down the cities of spiritual strongholds that destroy the souls of the masses. We must cast our stones of truth and fill the land with it. We must stop up the wells of water that many are drinking at, to their own destruction. The microscopic algae and bacteria that pollute the water cannot be seen by the naked eye. Likewise, it takes the leading of the Holy Spirit to discern the false teachings that are popular today. The living water offered by our Lord Jesus Christ was never mixed with the pollution of worldliness. We must even fell all the good trees that man puts his trust in. Many things are not necessarily sinful or evil which can cause us to lose sight of our need of God in our daily lives. Not one Kirhareseth can be left untouched. All that is contrary to God and His Holy Word must be destroyed.

Yet, as we are casting our stones we must be aware of the danger therein. Not one of us are worthy to cast a stone if we are doing it in our own righteousness. With all due respect to those

who believe otherwise, we do not believe any man or woman alive today is completely sinless. We are all too much like the Pharisees of Jesus' day. We want to stone those caught in sin while we excuse our own. There are those who think perhaps some of the very men who brought the woman taken in adultery to be stoned were the same ones who took part in her sin. If this be so or not, it is very evident that selective punishment was desired. For in John 8:4 we read, "They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act." Why is it we will raise righteous havoc over the deeds of one individual and excuse the very same thing in the life of another? All too often we allow our personal feelings to be our way of judgement in place of the Word of God.

There are times when we must expect spiritual stones to be cast at us for standing for the truth. Stephen was literally stoned for doing this. Those throwing the stones will cry out with a loud voice. They will say that they are standing for what the Church desires. They will cry out loudly against legalism, tradition and a works righteousness. As with the ones who stoned Stephen, there is an element of truth in what they say. There was not truth in their statement, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and against God." But there was some truth to their accusation, "For we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us."

The ones throwing the spiritual stones will stop up their ears. They refuse to hear "the other side." Legalism is falsely defined as following the ways of our forefathers. In reality, legalism is following Old Testament teachings in a New Testament Church. Tradition can become an idol. However, the popular saying, "But we have never done it that way is the greatest downfall of the church," is full of pitfalls. Groups, organizations and individuals have not left Spiritual teachings and practices because they have worshipped tradition. No, they are following those who are casting stones at the truths followed by true believers down through the ages. Then they "run upon him with one accord." We have searched our heart many times because of the fact that standing for certain teachings and practices is becoming very unpopular. We dislike the thought that "I am right and the world is wrong." We feel even more uncomfortable when "the world" becomes our fellow Brethren. Yet Holy Scripture is full of examples where the majority fall for false teachings.

Perhaps we should "put our slingshot away." Certainly we should be very careful where we aim it. God never called anyone to cause division and confusion in the church. But He has called for us to lay our life on the line for truth. Every one of the Apostles, with the exception of John, died for the true Faith.

While many are digging up the foundations of our Brethren faith and using it as stones to be cast at others, many are being lost to false teachings and the powers of Satan. Let us build upon the Rock, the Lord Jesus Christ, and be living stones for Him.

Brother James M. Hite
816 E. Birch St.
Palmyra, PA 17078

STRENGTHEN WHAT IS READY TO DIE

Revelation 3:2, "Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die:..."

What happened to the seven churches of Asia spoken about in the Revelation? We do not know, but in the scriptures we read of doctrines and teachings that did not take long to die out. We are told to strengthen the things that are ready to die; to constantly be watchful and prayerful. Much of the scripture deals with many departing from the faith.

There were the Judaizers, who compelled followers of Jesus to keep the Mosaic Law. There were those, whose previous beliefs allowed for a looseness of the flesh, who continued in fornication and adultery. There were those who went back to their old forms of worship, disavowing their relationship with Christ. Likewise, there were those who returned to the world.

Christians should identify with Christ in all that they do. Jesus, everywhere He went, was recognized as a Jewish teacher by His appearance. His followers were also recognized by their appearance and manner of speech. Likewise, today, our manner of life, our appearance, and our speech are important facets of our testimony for Christ.

Many, over the years, have tried to take away, or devalue, the doctrines of the Church which have made us Biblical and unique. Their motives in many cases have been honest, but have been a result of a teaching which began with the Methodists: You must be like the world to help them. We, however believe the Lord blesses a peculiar (unique) people, zealous of good works.

It is not up to me to condemn those who do not wear plain clothes, but yet many of them will condemn me. And why? I do not know, but I do know that Jesus was persecuted often without even speaking. Our appearance, which is a reflection of our inner self, can be a testimony for Christ or for evil. Christ was condemned often because He did not look like those around Him. Obviously the woman at the well could tell He was a Jew by His appearance. What can the world tell about us by our appearance?

If the elders would someday say that it was no longer necessary to be plain, how many would change to more worldly attire? What

worldly influences were at work? What worldly groups of friends were flirted with? There should be no need to change. What attractions has the superfluities of this world? How about dresses so short, or so tight, or so brightly colored that they attract attention for the wrong reasons? The coverings on many of our sisters: can they be seen from the front? Is so much hair puffed up around them that they cannot be seen except from directly behind? Are our sisters ashamed of their coverings?

Years ago more of the brethren wore beards. Even today, when the beard is more stylish, some are so short they appear like the world's. Some say these things are not necessary, but who are we trying to emulate? Are we trying to be like Jesus, or like the world? The brethren of old, holding forth the Primitive Faith, were persecuted for their appearance. Those that serve Christ WILL suffer persecution.

Whom we associate with is very important. To remain with a plain, baptistic, non-resistant group cannot be stressed enough. For several years we worshipped with several people who did not immerse. At first all was smooth, but eventually we had to come to a confrontation. We cannot stress enough the importance of preaching, teaching and upholding in daily life the teachings of scripture ignored by most groups today. We must strengthen those things which remain, that are ready to die.

There are many photographs of brethren and sisters taken over a hundred years ago. I often get out old pictures of my plain ancestors and those of my wife and look at them. They looked that way for a good reason: to honor and glorify Jesus Christ our Saviour. Can we do any less?

Brother Lynn H. Miller
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A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE LIFE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL

Part 5

11. Philemon

Written approximately A.D. 62. This letter is short compared to other of Paul's Epistles, but overflowing with "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you."

This Epistle is in form and purpose unlike Paul's other Epistles. God had used law, history, poetry, prophecy and the Gospels to cause people to change their way of living. In the Epistles He adopted a more personal and direct method. Someone in the past has said, "The Epistles are love letters to us from Christ."

Whether Paul meant for the letter and his way of dealing with Philemon to become public, is doubtful. Nevertheless it became scripture.

The history behind this Epistle was based on the black background of slavery. At that time there were 60,000,000 slaves in the Roman Empire out of a total population not exceeding 120,000,000. A slave was a chattel. They were treated worse than enemies, and were subject to the wishes of their masters, regardless of how ridiculous the requests were.

Onesimus was a slave belonging to Philemon. The slave had an opportunity to run away and did. He made his way to Rome where he thought he could mingle with the crowd and lose his identity.

One day he saw a crowd gathered. He joined in. It was the Apostle Paul preaching. There he heard Paul preach the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Through God's way, the Holy Ghost got a hold on him and he became a new creature.

After the service he related his story to Paul. Paul sent him back to Philemon with the accompanying letter. The purpose of this Epistle is to show how Christ intercedes for us before the Father.

This is the finest illustration of substitution and forgiveness. It fully compares with Jesus becoming our substitute and dying on the Cross in our place. Paul's letter to Philemon contained this phrase, "If he hath wronged thee or oweth thee ought, put that on my account."

When Jesus died on the Cross, and after our name was written in the book of life, there was the same change and relationship with Christ and God as there was between Onesimus and Philemon.

You can gain much if you are willing to study God's Word by launching deeper than just reading it.

HOW MUCH HAVE YOU PUT ON JESUS' ACCOUNT SINCE YOU ACCEPTED HIM AS YOUR SAVIOUR?

To Be Continued

Brother Paul R. Myers

5005 Higbee Ave. NW

Canton, Ohio 44718

SIXTY YEARS AGO

September 15, 1932

JESUS OUR FRIEND

D. S. Flohr

Text, John 15:9, "As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love."

We are thinking this morning, my friends, of the thousands of people who no longer have the joy of attending divine worship in their churches; the aged and infirm, the sick and afflicted, the many, many invalids and shut-ins, the sorrowing, the discouraged and disheartened. All these and many others who have great burdens to bear, need a friendly voice and a heartening word. They long for a message that will give them new courage, that will inspire them with new hope, and help them to bear more cheerfully and easily, the burdens of the day; a message that will still the voices of doubt and discouragement that trouble the soul. What message shall we bring to them and to you all? What can we say during these few moments that will help you most? Of ourselves, we can do little, but with Christ's help we can do all things. We therefore take you to the Master teacher, that we may sit at His feet and hear His blessed words. Come then, my friends, in the spirit, back across the years to Jerusalem, and into the upper room where we sit with Jesus and His disciples on that night before His crucifixion. He is giving to His disciples and through them to the world His last will and testament. We hear His sweet voice saying, "Let not your heart be troubled ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my father's house are many mansions." "If ye love me keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father and He shall give you another comforter." "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you." "Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." On and on He goes, His words falling upon the hearts of His disciples as rain upon the parched earth. John, the beloved disciple, records them in the 14, 15, 16 and 17th chapters of his gospel. Read these chapters, my friends, they will take you into the heart of the Master and into the very presence of God.

But this morning we can study only a few verses very briefly. If you have your Bible near please turn with me to John 15:9, "As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you, continue ye in my love."

Who can measure the love of God? His love is as boundless as the universe and as deep as eternity. It is far beyond our finite minds to comprehend. All about us, here in this beautiful country, we behold the expression of God's great love. Surrounded as we are, by the rich products of garden, field and orchard, growing in abundance, we can see just beyond our windows the expressions of our Father's love. In our hearts, there surges up that faith and hope, which make it possible for us to reach out and lay hold of the infinite, the everlasting. We know that the love of Christ will follow us through every trial; that He will never forsake us, and that, if we are faithful, He will not permit sin to have dominion over us. We sing of God's eternal love:

"O love that will not let me go
I rest my weary soul on Thee;
I give Thee back the life I owe
That in Thine ocean depths, its flow
May richer, fuller be."

The challenge of our text is, that we may love Christ as He loves us. His love for us is as great as God's love for Him. "As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you," says Jesus. How far short we all come in our love for Christ. He gave His life for us, and in verse 13 He tells us that, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend." Then falls from the Master's lips one of the sweetest sayings in the Bible: "Ye are My friends." What a wonderful friend Jesus is to us and how little oft times do we appreciate His friendship.

The world often leaves Jesus standing just outside its door, its dearest friend, neglected and forgotten, as we often sing:

"Behold a stranger at the door,
He gently knocks, has knocked before,
Has waited long, is waiting still,
You treat no other friend so ill."

But millions have opened their hearts to Jesus and He has entered their lives. He has become their friend and their Savior. It is not strange that so many millions have loved Jesus. We love him because He first loved us. We believe in Him because His words have power and conviction in them. They come from the very heart and council of God. They are as hot brands forged in the flaming furnace of an infinite love. No wonder men said of Him, "Never man spake like this." The mystery of Jesus must be traced to the council of God where He said, "I and the Father are one, he that hath seen me hath seen the Father." Out of this great Father heart of love, then comes forth all that Jesus said and did. It was God's love; His great eternal friendship, that brought forth the eternal sacrifice for our sins.

But will He prove a friend indeed? He will, the very friend you need. "A friend of sinners – yes, 'tis He. With garments dyed on calvary." When Christ comes into the human heart, we learn to know God, not as the great "I am," but as a loving, tender, compassionate Father. This loving God, who will not "break the bruised reed" nor "quench the smoking flax," calls from the human soul all that is pure and noble. He lifts us out of our dead selves to higher things. He stands by our bedsides during sickness and at the hour of death and fashions upon our lips a smile. His love brings hope to the hopeless, strength to the weak, and increases the faith of those who are discouraged. We know

Him as a friend, our dearest and best friend, and there is nothing we would not do for such a friend. We would give Him our best, our all. The response of Christ's love in the human heart is beautifully set forth in an incident related by one of our early missionaries to the American Indians. The missionary was telling of the great love of Christ. He said, "Christ left His home in heaven and came to earth as a little child. Born in poverty and in a stable manger, to save you and me." At this point an Indian chief standing in the rear came forward and laid his tomahawk on the table saying, "Indian chief gives Christian missionary tomahawk for Christ." Then the missionary told how Christ had gone about doing good, helping the poor, the outcast, the blind, and the lepers, how he labored into the night and then went up into the mountain to pray. The Indian chief came forward again and laid his blanket upon the table saying, "Indian chief give Christian missionary blanket for Christ." The missionary told how Jesus had bowed in prayer and in sorrow in the garden of Gethsemane, and prayed for us all. The Indian chief came forward a third time leading his pony and said, "Indian chief gives Christian missionary pony for Christ." Finally the missionary told of Christ's trials and scourging, the mockery and last the crucifixion. How He had prayed "Father forgive them" and died for us all. Then the Indian chief came again to the front and casting himself on the ground said, "Indian chief gives self to Christ." You see my friends, it was not argument that brought the Indian chief to Jesus, but the great love of Jesus, that love of which we sing, "The love of Jesus, what it is none but His loved ones know."

When Christ's love enters the human soul, it changes the whole life. The life then becomes a Christ-filled and Christ-centered life, dominated by those elements which are Christ-like. Old habits of sin are cast away. New habits of goodness and righteousness are found. The life becomes new and full and fruitful. The Christ-filled life obeys the commandments, not by compulsion but by desire, it is a joy to obey Christ when we are His. He takes up our burdens and helps us to carry them. Has He not said, "Cast your burdens upon the Lord for He careth for you." Nothing can harm us when we are His. No power can lead us away if we love Him. Henry Drummond tells of an experience with a young girl who developed into a beautiful character in the midst of the slums of New York. No one could find the secret of her life development. Once she grew ill and Dr. Drummond called upon her. About her neck she wore a locket into which no one had been permitted to look. She told Dr. Drummond that in this locket he would find the secret of her life. He looked and saw in the locket a picture of Christ with these words: "Whom not having seen I love." Here was the secret of her beautiful life. Here is the secret of every beautiful life, every happy life, every worthwhile life, every life that is blessed. We

may all, my friends, make Christ the secret of our lives. We may continue in His love and friendship forever. We may always remain with Him in the "upper-room;" in the upper room of our hearts and of our homes. We may walk with Him along life's troubled ways; we may live with Him and we may have Him with us when we are called to pass through the shadow into the life beyond. His love is an everlasting love and abideth forever. May we all continue to abide in His love. Amen.

NEWS ITEMS

WEST FULTON, OHIO

The West Fulton Congregation is looking forward to a ten day revival with Bro. Jason Reed, from the Bethel Congregation, as our evangelist. The Lord willing, the meeting will be from Friday evening, October 2 through October 11. All are cordially invited to come and worship with us during these meetings.

Sister Dianne Heisey, Cor.

QUINTER, KANSAS

The Quinter Congregation invites all who can, to attend our Fall revival. Lord willing, Bro. Tom St. John will be our evangelist October 4 through October 11. Services begin at 11 A.M. on Saturday, with Lovefeast that evening. Come praying for renewal in our lives.

Sister Rhonda Snyder, Cor.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR OCTOBER 1992

October 4 - Jehu's Zeal for the Lord - II Kings 10:1-36 (II Kings 9:1-37).

1. How was the "Word of the Lord" fulfilled in the judgement of Jezebel?
2. What did Jehu do to purge Israel of sin?

October 11 - Joash Reigns - II Kings 11:1-21, II Kings 12:1-13.

1. How is God's providence seen in the protection of young Joash?
2. Ponder the blessing of Jehoiada's influence on King Jehoash. (verse 2)

October 18 - Jehoahas of Israel and Elisha - II Kings 13:1-25.

1. How did the life example of fathers influence leadership in Israel?
2. What lesson can we learn from the meeting of Joash and Elisha?

October 25 - Amaziah and Jehoash - II Kings 14:1-29.

1. What was the root of the conflict between Israel and Judah?
2. What is the meaning of the riddle in verse 9?

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR OCTOBER 1992

October 4 - What Shall I Do With Christ? - Matthew 27:20-31.

1. Was Pilate's response to Christ acceptable?
2. Has your response to Christ been only a formal acknowledgement or a loyal dedication?

October 11 - Persistence - Mark 2:1-12.

1. What does persistence tell about a person?
2. List some things we should be persistent in.

October 18 - Exchanging - Mark 8:34-38, Philipians 3:8-14.

1. What have you exchanged for your soul?
2. How will the Lordship of Christ effect the exchange we make?

October 25 - A Millstone - Mark 9:41-50.

1. What was a millstone like?
2. How can we avoid offending others?

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BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 19

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

LORD, SPEAK TO ME, THAT I MAY SPEAK

Lord, speak to me, that I may speak
In living echoes of thy tone;
As thou hast sought, so let me seek
Thy erring children lost and lone.

O teach me, Lord, that I may teach
The precious things thou dost impart;
And wing my words, that they may reach
The hidden depths of many a heart.

O fill me with thy fulness, Lord,
Until my very heart o'erflow
In kindling tho't and glowing word,
Thy love to tell, thy praise to show.

O use me, Lord, use even me,
Just as thou wilt, and when and where;
Until thy blessed face I see,
Thy rest, thy joy, thy glory share.

- Frances R. Havergal

JONAH AND THE NINEVITES

The Biblical account of Jonah is one of the best known of all the many unusual and uplifting accounts in the Bible. Children learn about Jonah's adventures early in life, but the story of Jonah also has many lessons for adults.

In a time of almost overwhelming wickedness, the Church has a great task before her to share the Gospel with the lost. The activities that are a part of our present world reflect the lack of Christian values and works. Christianity may be highly praised as a valuable part of our culture but unfortunately it has become for most people an irrelevant relic of a long forgotten age. Christianity for most people is either an unknown experience or one that is not relevant to their daily lives. For many who profess Christianity, it is an experience that is confined to a few hours of mostly social meetings that do not influence their lives beyond a certain common goodness. Their lives are not changed because of their church attendance or even membership in a local church.

Those who do not even profess belief in Jesus Christ have absolutely no basis for moral behaviour in their lives, they can only do what they feel compelled to do by whatever values they may subscribe to. Without a living Jesus Christ within their hearts and lives, they have no morality beyond what is enforced by their associates or the government or family.

Jonah had to deal with people of a similar situation. The Ninevites were a heathen, idol worshipping people, who had inflicted punishment and suffering upon Jonah's people. He did not have a very kind view of them. He did not wish them well. When God called him to go to preach repentance to them, he wasn't

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about to bring such good tidings to his enemies. They didn't deserve to hear of God's mercy. To emphasize his feelings, he decided to go the opposite direction instead of towards Nineveh.

After his terrifying, although deserved, stormy trip on the Mediterrean and rescue by God's big fish, he was willing to listen to God's message. He was then ready to go where God wanted him to go. God sometimes calls men to go strange places and do strange things, as the world regards these activities. When that call comes, it needs to be obediently answered.

Jonah was a very effective missionary when he entered Nineveh. He might have expected to be accosted when he arrived there. He probably thought some harm would be done him. He went on and proclaimed the message that he had been given. He called Nineveh to repentance. The message not only was persuasive to the common people of Nineveh, but it affected even the King. Soon the whole city came under conviction and a great revival took place in this most unlikely place.

Among the lessons that might be garnered from this story is the one that God expects His people to be obedient. He may even use extreme measures to enforce that obedience, although usually He lets the person go on, losing the blessing of doing God's work. God has a message to be delivered to all people. The message may be packaged a little differently, but it must be the one consistent message for all cultures and people. The message of Jesus Christ and His identification with men and His death, burial and resurrection for the forgiveness of their sins must be the basis of all missionary activity. There must be a message of a lifestyle to be lived consistently with Biblical principles.

Repentance is a starting point, not the end of a Christian life. When Jonah was among the Ninevites, it was evident that he was not one of them. He was a foreigner. He did not belong. He could easily have been picked out of all the people that lived in that great city. The Christian should be recognizable in the midst of the world. His speech, activities, recreation, dress should all mark him as an alien in the world in which he lives. Jonah's message would have been blunted if the Ninevites had not recognized that he was their natural enemy who had come with a different message of love and pardon. It was the difference that they needed to see. It was the difference wrought by God's hand upon the potentially disobedient Jonah.

Do you have a message for the sinsick world that is so prominently flaunting itself around you? Does the world recognize that message as God's message, straight from His Word? Does your life square with that Word?

Whatever similarities you may have had with disobedient Jonah in the past, now is the time to go to Nineveh with God's message.

Be recognized as the stranger who brings God's supernatural love to lost mankind.

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"Hostility"

Hostility is a part of our age just as it was a part of the time when Jesus walked on the face of this earth. He came to help people and yet He was frequently misunderstood. The religious leaders hated Him because He challenged their practices. Even His closest followers had some difficulty understanding His true nature and purpose for coming to planet Earth. On one occasion, when the people in a Samaritan village refused to receive Him and to listen to what He had to say, James and John wanted to call fire down from on high to destroy the entire village.

Ultimately Judas became so hostile toward Jesus that he betrayed Him for thirty pieces of silver. So in spite of the fact that Jesus brought peace and security, He received hostility. And this has been true of Christians throughout history. Suffering and bloodshed have been their lot many times. Even the prophet Isaiah looked forward to a time when the nations of the world would beat their swords into plowshares and the spears into pruning hooks. (Isaiah 2:4) But for now, we are looking into the face of hostility in the world.

"Hostility" is another word for "anger" or "hatred". It comes in many different ways and for many different reasons. We usually think of it as a physical attack or harm or by having our property destroyed. The history of Israel illustrates this. When they were slaves in Egypt, they were forced to work with no pay and at one point all of their boy babies were to be destroyed. They seemed almost powerless to resist these attacks.

But not all hostility comes in the form of physical pain and death. One of the most common forms of hostility is gossip. This occurs when someone attempts to tear down another person's character. We have all experienced how unpleasant this act is. It is also expressed in racial prejudice. There should be no place among us for this ungodly expression of hostility.

God's Ten Commandments give us guidelines for living with each other. They help to show us how we naturally react when hostility is directed toward us.

Early Christians suffered greatly from their enemies. These enemies were usually the religious leaders or the Roman officials. But, ten centuries later, it was the church itself that was the persecutor. It pronounced suffering and death upon those who believed that the church had fallen away from the "orthodox" teaching of the day.

How do we react to hostility? Do we try to "get even" whenever someone does us wrong? In the Old Testament, when the commandment against killing was broken, whoever did the killing was also put to death. Justice at that time called for an "eye for an eye, or a tooth for a tooth."

Retaliation almost never stops with an "eye for an eye." It is our human inclination to pay back more than the harm we receive to make the other person suffer as much as possible. It is probably impossible to estimate how many lives have been lost or how much damage has been done as a result of these "wars." Entire churches... and even nations... can be dragged into a conflict because of imagined or real grievances that are held against each other.

Jesus came to bring "Peace, good will toward men." (Luke 2:14) In His blueprint for mature living given on the Sermon on the Mount, we are taught that it is the soft answer that brings about healing, not abrasiveness. This is radically different from the world's idea. He told us that we could expect to experience the enmity of the world when we follow Him. Yet, there was to be a blessing when this happens.

Jesus taught that vengeance or retaliation cannot be a part of our reaction toward hostility. He taught that it only brings greater harm to us and that our only option to settle differences is to do it peacefully and Biblically.

Jesus intends for us to live unselfish lives that are dedicated to His service and the service of others. When we do this we can expect hostile reactions from some people around us... either from jealousy or from a lack of understanding. When hostility comes, we are to return good for evil and not lash out and lose control. We must "turn the other cheek" and "go the second mile" and it is then that we will reveal Christ's nature as His Holy Spirit lives within us.

We need to be the agents for helping others to live Godly lives. This is going to require self control and true AGAPE love. The Holy Spirit DOES make it possible for us to live this kind of life even though the world would tell us it is impossible. We learn to love others in a Christ-like way when we give up animosities and retaliation. When others act hostile toward us... we will be forgiving and gracious.

Impossible, you say? Not with God. He can and will change us and allow us to be able to do the impossible. It is He who will settle all accounts. It is God who will judge justly. Meanwhile, we need only to lay up treasures for ourselves in heaven and pray for victory when we are tempted to be hostile. Superhuman strength is there. Ask God for it and hold firm.

Brother Len Wertz

THEIR REDEEMER IS STRONG

Jeremiah 50:34, "Their Redeemer is strong; the Lord of hosts is his name: he shall thoroughly plead their cause, that he may give rest to the land, and disquiet the inhabitants of Babylon."

This verse, of course, speaks of the divided kingdoms of Israel and Judah. Verse thirty-three tells us they "were oppressed together." As we study Anabaptist history we find that there were various groups that held a common belief. The two areas that bound them together, in spite of differences in such areas as mode of baptism, was their scriptural understanding of non-conformity and nonresistance. Both of these areas are being challenged today by those within the Anabaptist faith.

Our Brethren forefathers, a part of the Anabaptist tradition, gave credence to the fact that their redeemer is strong. They recognized that the Lord of Hosts is His name. Along with the other Bible believing groups of their day, they acknowledged the fact that Jesus Christ was God the Son, the second person of the divine Trinity. They recognized that He was greater than men and angels. He is not merely a great man or a great prophet. He was not Michael the arch-angel as one cult teaches. He is the virgin born Son of God, as the Bible clearly teaches.

Our brethren forefathers recognized that He shall thoroughly plead their cause. Many of them went beyond our understanding today. Not only did they refuse to swear in a court of law, many of them refused to return evil for evil and took a loss. They also recognized that the Bible, the Holy Word of God, was their defense. Unlike many in the modern Anabaptist movement, they refused to separate the living Word, Jesus Christ, and the written Word, the Holy Bible. Many things that are not classified as "plain traditions" were taught and practiced by all Bible believing groups that called themselves "Christian." The areas that made our Brethren forefathers distinct was in such areas as the refusal to wear any jewelry, refusal to take part in ballroom dancing and the refusal to have musical instruments in their meetinghouses. They recognized that it was the Lord's desire that he may give rest to the land. While we recognize that the Old Testament does not teach nonresistance, we also recognize that the Lord Jesus Christ, who did, is also the redeemer of Israel in the Old Testament. We see Psalm 120 as a prophetic Psalm that looks forward to the coming of the Prince of Peace to establish His Church. The last verse of this Psalm, verse 7, says, "I am for peace: but when I speak, they are for war." This is a strong indictment against the majority of so called Bible believing churches that existed in the time of our forefathers as well as today.

Our forefathers recognized that he shall disquiet the inhabitants of Babylon. They refused to become involved in the world

system. As we are approaching another election for President of the United States we are hearing many taking side with one candidate or the other. We believe our forefathers showed great wisdom in refusing to become involved with voting for political offices. The one exception was when they voted for Quakers. As we understand it, they later regretted their decision to vote at that time.

Where do we stand today as a church? Do we still believe that our redeemer is strong? Are we willing to stand for the faith of our spiritual fathers in spite of ridicule? Will you allow the Holy Spirit to lead you into all truth? If you belong to a group who is a part of the Anabaptist tradition but no longer follows her historical teachings will you be willing to stand alone? We would encourage you to think and pray seriously as to God's will concerning your staying in such an environment.

We praise God that not only can we say "Their redeemer is strong," but we can say, "MY redeemer is strong." The Lord of hosts is MY Lord. He shall plead MY cause. He shall give ME rest and lead ME in the way of peace and love. He shall disquiet those who oppose ME and give ME strength to endure.

My friend, do you personally know the Redeemer, who is strong? He wants to become your redeemer in a personal way. He already died on Calvary's cross and shed His precious blood to become your redeemer. Will you now accept this gift from God, repent, be baptized and be saved?

Brother James M. Hite
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A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE LIFE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL

Part 6

12. Hebrews

Hebrews was written before the destruction of the Temple in A.D. 70.

It is an unanswered question as to who actually wrote Hebrews. The Authorized Version heads this book, Epistle of Paul, the Apostle to the Hebrews. The American Revised Version gives the heading, "The Epistle To The Hebrews."

Even if the Pauline authorship cannot be proven, it's language is enough proof that he wrote it. Some proofs: The writer has been in bonds, he wrote from Italy, his companion was Timothy and the entire book of Hebrews reflects Paul as the writer, regardless of the disputation of others.

His theme consisted of several subjects: "PERFECT", which occurs fifteen times; "LET US", occurs thirteen times and "LET" occurs five times. Two verses likewise convey the "BETTER WAY", Hebrews 3:1 and 12:3.

If a subject was needed for the book of Hebrews "THE SUPERIORITY OF CHRIST" would be quite appropriate. Some of the subjects stressed by Paul; Christ is superior to prophets. He is superior to angels, Moses, Joshua and superior to the Levitical Priesthood. He was human, but also divine.

He foretold perils coming in the future: Peril of drifting, peril of doubting, peril of dull hearing, peril of departing from the faith, peril of despising and peril of denying. We see each one being fulfilled in our day.

Christ is our perpetual High Priest, interceding for us before our Father in Heaven.

In the book of Hebrews as well as others, he gave us many thoughts on FAITH, HOPE and LOVE.

In conclusion of the articles written regarding the Pauline Epistles, I wish to leave these suggestions with you to study, pray and live for Jesus. He is coming again, (it may be sooner than we think) and we want to be recognized by HIM as a true believer and ascend with Him to Heaven. There to be with Christ, God, the HOLY ANGELS and all the redeemed throughout all Eternity. MAKE SURE AND SECURE YOUR SALVATION.

Brother Paul R. Myers
5005 Higbee Ave., N.W.
Canton, Ohio 44718

SIXTY YEARS AGO

October 1, 1932

LIFE

Sylvia Malott

In considering our physical life, it is compared to a shadow, which soon vanishes away. (I Chr. 29:15) "For we are strangers before thee, and sojourners, as were all our fathers: our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is none abiding."

David says, our life is only as a handbreadth in extent. (Psa. 39:5) "Behold, thou hast made my days as an hand breadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity."

James teaches us that our physical life is like a vanishing vapor. (James 4:14) "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow.

For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

While our life here on earth is very brief, and we have no assurance of tomorrow, I am sure we should be more concerned about our spiritual life, which is secured through faith in God. (Jno. 5:24) "Verily, verily I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." (Rom. 8:10) "And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness." It is necessary then that we become dead to sin and self.

(II Cor. 4:11) "For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh."

Christ then should be the supreme object of our spiritual life. Paul says in (Phs. 1:21) "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." And love is one of the greatest demonstrations of the spiritual life. (I Jno. 3:14) "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death." When we have this spiritual life abiding in us, we also have the promise of eternal life, which comes through faith in Christ.

(Jno. 3:14-15) "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life." Then too, we must have knowledge of God. (Jno. 17:3) "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." When we have this knowledge of God, and faith in Christ, then their comes spiritual service, to gain eternal life.

(Jno. 4:35-36) "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal:..." And I am sure God requires wholehearted service. (Eph. 6:6) "Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart."

Then how thankful we should be that God sent His Son into the world, that we through Him, may have eternal life.

Life is made up of smiles and tears
But 'twil be for only a few short years,
Then with patience we must run the race.
Until we see our Savior's smiling face.

Then no more sorrow to darken our skies
No more tears to dim our eyes;
O how glorious it will be
To sing praises through all eternity.

SWEET SAVOUR OF CHRIST

Ephesians 5:2, "And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour."

II Corinthians 2:15, "For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish."

It is the sweet savour of Christ in us that draws others to Him. It is not our persistence in witnessing. This often turns people off and turns good works into ridicule. It is not how we look, though these things are all important. If we possess the sweet savour of Christ, people will not see a severe way of life or those who "do without" in order to seek favor with God. They will see a people who are living in the beauty of holiness: looking forward to the glories of Heaven.

In the Old Testament times God's people would burn their offerings upon an altar. God would smell the smoke and it would either be good to Him, as Abel's was, or not, in the case of Cain. Since Jesus was our sacrifice for sin, and the entire price for our sin has been paid, which was not the case in Old Testament times, it then becomes possible for God to smell the savour of Christ in us. The wonderful dividend in this situation is that those around us can smell this savour, and taste it, also.

The Christian life has also been compared to salt, a savour found in the tasting. Salt does many things. It preserves; it improves the flavor; it is a cleanser. All these definitions have illustrations in scripture. Back in Bible times salt was valuable. The word salary, meaning a living wage, comes from the same word as salt, because Roman soldiers in those times were often paid in salt.

When we are in the presence of others, do they taste Christ? Does Christ in us give them an appetite for the things of God. Most important of all, does God smell the sweet savour of Christ in us daily?

The sad thing about this all is there are many people reading this that do not know what I am talking about. They may be church members, but nothing more. Or, they may be seeking the Lord, but on their own terms. Is "accepting the Lord" good enough? We do well to read the scripture which says, Christ in you, the hope of glory! If Christ is in us, we are no longer our own, we are Christ's.

And those that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its affections and lusts.

Brother Lynn H. Miller
RD #2 Box 561
Newmanstown, PA 17073

OUR SATURDAY NIGHT

J. H. Moore

A MAN OF ONE TALENT

Early in my ministerial experiences I knew a young man whom I could not fully understand. Before reaching the age of twenty he made the good confession and was received into the church. He seldom missed the church services, and was always a good listener. I never knew him to miss a members' meeting when it was possible for him to be present. I do not recall a word he ever said, in any gathering he attended, not can I remember that he ever did anything to help along the work of the church. He behaved himself on week days and Sundays, but that is all there could be said of him. He was simply good, but not active. Finally I set him down in my own mind as a man of one talent, and could not, therefore, expect much of him. Then I wondered if he would ever be of any value to the church. I could not bring myself to think that he had wrapped his talent in a napkin and buried it, for he did not act like one who meant to hide his talent. Well, I could not understand just what he was good for, unless it was to come to church and listen to the preaching and singing, and to some extent, help with the singing himself.

The duties of life called me to another field. I was absent a number of years. But on a beautiful summer day I chanced to enter the old church where I had often seen the young man in my congregation, but, candidly, I had forgotten all about him. When I entered the church I was taken by surprise. A marvelous change had come over the interior of the building. Years before it was simply a plain, serviceable, barn-like house, without any attractions. On this occasion I found the walls had been dressed up with plain but neat colors, which soften the light. Shades had been placed over the windows, the seats neatly grained, the aisles carpeted, a neat pulpit constructed and a good, hot air furnace had been installed. The audience room was in a very inviting condition. It had been well aired out early in the morning, the carpets and floor were clean, and not a particle of dust could be seen on either the seats or the pulpit. Everything was scrupulously clean and in perfect order. All this was arranged before the Sunday school hour. The janitor had done his work so completely that he had no occasion whatever for disturbing the audience during the Sunday school and preaching service.

To my happy surprise I observed that my supposed one-talented man was the janitor, and I was told that he was regarded as the best janitor the large congregation ever had. When selected for the place he cheerfully accepted the work, and then proceeded to make of himself an ideal janitor. He seemed to set his whole mind on his work, and not only rendered the best of satisfaction, but really made the old-fashioned church the most delightful place for services in all the region round about. In my own mind I had never been able to find any department in church work suited to the capacity of the man, but the good Master found a place for him, and in this position he was permitted to make a splendid use of his one talent. "Surely," I said to myself, "here is a man who did not dig a hole in the earth and bury his talent simply because he had but the one."

It occurred to me at the time, and I am still impressed with the same thought, that if we could have that kind of a janitor for all of our churches, we would, in many instances, have a far better attendance at most of our services. These are days when people, who live in neat homes, do not care to attend church in poorly-ventilated, badly-heated and dusty audience rooms. They expect to find heaven a clean, inviting place, and since they are taught to look upon the sanctuary of the Lord as a heavenly place in Christ Jesus, it is no more than natural that they should expect the house of God to be made physically as well as spiritually attractive. We may yet find it wise to make more use of our one-talented men.

OBITUARY

PERNIA SWITZER

Sister Pernia May Switzer, the third child of Hezekiah and Ivy (Lett) Root was born on December 15, 1900, in Arago, Oregon, near the Coquille River. Because there were no roads and towns when her grandparents had homesteaded in the area, they had used this same river to go upstream to find property and later had resettled in Arago. Pernia and her sisters were rowed across this river daily during the school season to save the long horseback ride up and downstream to a bridge.

In 1919, she moved with her parents and sisters to Waterford, California. She missed Oregon and the river and made several oil paintings to remind her. On March 27, 1921, she married Elvan Barklow and less than three months later she was widowed by an epidemic of typhoid fever. In 1922, she met Anna Switzer visiting family in Waterford. When Mrs. Switzer returned home to Kansas,

she told her son that he had to accompany her on her next trip to California. So her son, who had been made a widower by tuberculosis, left his young daughter Doris with his sister where they had been living, and came to California. Mrs. Switzer introduced her son, Charles Edward, to Pernia. Charles never returned to Kansas to live after that. Their losses giving them a common bond, Pernia and Charles began a friendship that culminated in marriage in 1923. This coming April 4th, they would have celebrated their 70th Anniversary!

Charles sent for Doris to come to live with them and later the new family grew to include Kenneth, Fred, David, Charles and Sharon.

In 1926, Pernia and Charles became charter members of the Dunkard Brethren Church in Waterford. They have remained active members of the Pleasant Home Congregation.

In 1950, she began a home business of making fancy cakes. Many people in this area have had special occasions brightened by her work and their children and grandchildren have returned to ask her to make cakes for them also.

She is survived by her husband Charles and their six children. Their descendants include nineteen grandchildren, forty-nine great-grandchildren and twelve great-great-grandchildren. She will be sorely missed by all and many friends, church members, neighbors, former customers and acquaintances.

Funeral services were conducted at the Pleasant Home Dunkard Brethren Church by Brethren Henry Walker and Michael Wray. Burial was in the Lakewood Memorial Cemetery, where Brother Rudy Cover conducted the service.

THREE SCORE AND TEN YEARS

Seventy Years is considered a special time in men's affairs. The first issue of the BIBLE MONITOR was issued October 1, 1922, seventy years ago. Elder Benjamin E. Kesler, of Poplar Bluff, Missouri, was the first Editor and Publisher. In September, 1923 at a meeting in Denton, Maryland a stock subscription company was organized to publish the BIBLE MONITOR, with B. E. Kesler remaining as Editor. The stock company continued as the owner and publisher of the paper until 1928, when it became the official organ of the Dunkard Brethren Church. The first article, EDITORIAL FOREWARD, in the first issue of the BIBLE MONITOR, written by B. E. Kesler, follows:

As to apology, we have none, but our convictions are that prevailing conditions not only warrant but actually demand that a medium be instituted through which the present worldward tendency of the church may be counteracted, and evils now prevailing may be exposed and corrected, and, if possible, removed.

Our policy is, and our aim shall be, to uphold truth and righteousness, and to oppose error, wrong, and evil, and to use our best efforts at reform by "earnestly contending for the faith once for all delivered to the saints," as revealed in the Holy Scriptures and maintained and held for over 200 years by our beloved Brotherhood.

Pecuniary interest has no place in our heart in this undertaking. Whatever adverse criticism may be made of our effort, or however much our motives may be impugned please be fair with the "Monitor", and judge it upon its merits.

It is expected that the Monitor will be published at a sacrifice, for a time at least, but this sacrifice, the promoters are willing to make in an honest effort to call us back to the primal beauty, and pristine purity of the old church through which we received spiritual birth and were made children of God.

At the same time, should a sample copy fall into your hands, that will be an invitation to you to subscribe, and should the Spirit move you to share their sacrifice, your donation will be gladly accepted and fully appreciated.

We expect the endorsement of some, but your co-operation will be most helpful. Then, too, you may have a word of encouragement, that will help lots. Send it along. But above all else, pray for us.

With your help we hope to publish the "Monitor" monthly, the Lord willing. Write for sample copies or send mailing list to whom we may send sample copies.

With these convictions, and these aims, and looking to God in implicit faith and trust for guidance, and pleading guilty to many imperfections, and fully conscious of many weaknesses, we come to you with the "Monitor", as a medium of fraternal communication and interchange of thought, open to all contributors who are of like convictions and in sympathy with its aims as above expressed.

NEWS ITEMS

MINISTERIAL CHANGES

The correct address for Elder Otto Harris is HC 75, Box 131, New Creek, West Virginia 26743.

The new address of Brother Marlin D. Marks is 3027 Acron Lane, Red Lion, Pennsylvania 17356-9782.

GOSHEN, INDIANA

The Lord willing, the Goshen Congregation will have their Lovefeast on November 7. Services will be at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday.

We invite all who can to come and worship with us.

Sister Becky Stalter, Cor.

SWALLOW FALLS, MARYLAND

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord for the Gospel of salvation that is old, yet always new; Praise the Lord that there are still ministers who are not ashamed to preach it as it is. Watchmen on the wall, clearing their responsibilities before God and man in an earnest effort to bring others to the realization of the necessity of serving God with the whole heart and delivering their souls from hell. Such is the ministry of Bro. Ray Stuber who has recently broken the Bread of Life at the Swallow Falls Church in a ten day revival. His messages were very uplifting even though no one chose at this time to exchange this world for an eternal abode with the blessed beyond the reach of man or Satan when life on earth is over. We were also glad to have his wife, Delores and two sons with us.

On August 22, twenty-three communicants surrounded the Lord's table in a spiritual feast long to be remembered. Ministering brethren present were our Elder, Bro. Virgil Leatherman and wife, Bro. Paul Hartz and wife, Bro. Ronald Marks and family and Bro. Ray Stuber who officiated at the Lovefeast. We were happy to have a large van load of folks from the Hart, Michigan church. During the meeting we had visitors from Walnut Grove, Waynesboro, Hart, Broadwater Chapel, Shrewsbury and Mechanicsburg Congregations.

Thanks to one and all for coming and especially Bro. Stuber who so faithfully broke the Bread of Life. We solicit your prayers for our little body of believers here at Swallow Falls. It is our prayer that we all be prepared to sit down to that great marriage supper of the Lamb of God beyond this age of trouble and sorrow.

Sister Ruth M. Snyder, Cor.

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BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 20

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

FRUITION

We scatter seeds with careless hand
And dream we ne'er shall see them more,
But for a thousand years
Their fruit appears
In weeds that mar the land
Or helpful store.

The deeds we do, the words we say –
Into still air they seem to fleet;
We count them ever past;
But they shall last –
In the dread judgment they
And we shall meet.

I charge thee by the years gone by,
For the love's sake of brethren dear,
Keep thou the one true way,
In work and play,
Lest in that world their cry
Of woe thou hear.

- John Keble

DISORDER AT CORINTH

The Apostle Paul wrote two letters to the church at Corinth attempting to establish them in an orderly way of conducting their public services and private lives. The Corinthian Christians lived in a prosperous and multicultural city. It was a major trading port in the Mediterrean Sea, so people from many countries, societies and cultures had settled there to engage in business. Its prosperity allowed the city to have many cultural benefits unknown to cities in other parts of the world. Its prosperity also brought with it a dependence upon wealth and a very worldly way of life. Its diversity brought disharmony among the people living there. Some because of wealth or origin looked down upon some of the other people who lived there. The diversity of the city allowed for a certain freedom of conscience for the people, but it also tolerated beliefs and practices that were sensational and evil.

The Corinthian Christians were allowed by this freedom to have their own beliefs, but they were also influenced by the city's prosperity and sins. There was much that Paul could commend the Corinthians for, but there was also many other things that demanded a rebuke and a change. The Corinthians had been willing to listen to Paul. They had followed his directions, at least partially. Now, he wrote twice because they had failed to implement Christian standards in the midst of the ungodly society in which they lived. They had been subtly and even directly influenced by their surrounding culture.

The situation of the Corinthian Christians very much parallels the situation with Christians today in our land and culture. The surrounding society has an influence that is not wholly good for the Christian. The subtle pressures of society to cause all to become

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the same work upon Christians to mold them into a people very much like the other people in that culture. Today, it is not popular to be peculiar. In fact, peculiarity has been argued away as meaning only an inward direction that is peculiar, not an outward appearance or lifestyle. The diversity of the American culture has allowed a freedom of conscience, unknown in most lands and eras, but it has also allowed Christians to become a part of the social scene and to compromise their doctrine to be more compatible with the surrounding society.

The ways and methods of the surrounding society are able to slip almost unnoticed into the Church. What the members were used to doing before they heard the Gospel still impressed them. The ways they used in their everyday employments also suggested ways to handle business within the Church. Most did not recognize what the end result of their adoption of society's would be. These methods were good, when applied to temporal problems, but when they were used to carry out Spiritual objectives they were flawed. The hierarchical organization of business and government could not be applied to the Church which was directed by the Holy Spirit dwelling in each member. The use of force, threats and violence were a part of everyday social, political and business activities, but the nonresistant Christians could not use such methods. The surrounding world was less apt to worship God or any deity than to worship certain people. There was an established hierarchy of officials and others who were looked up to by the others. If they weren't loved they were at least envied. But the Church, which was composed of all those who had had a common experience of being redeemed through the blood of Jesus Christ, could not establish hierarchies of people within her bounds. The world organizes itself through classes. Some are exalted, while others are despised. The basis of this distinction may be something so unchangeable as color of skin, place of birth or other natural items. There is no place in the Church for a class structure, since all are there through the gift of God.

The Corinthian Church had trouble with many of these leveling influences. They were used to the ways of the world around them; they tried to transfer those ways into the Church. Paul had to rebuke them. They had even brought disorder into the most sacred of all the ordinances, the Lovefeast. There was a separation between the members. Those well off refused to share with the poorer ones. There was a definite lack of brotherhood at the service that emphasized unity.

Because there are many similarities between the Church at Corinth and the modern Church, we need to be aware of the errors they were guilty of, so we may avoid them. We need to keep good order in the Church and learn to do all things decently, as Paul counseled them. If we do these things, there will be no second

class members or officials within the Church. We will be sure the ordinances are kept as God has directed. Our lives will reflect the work that God has performed within us.

Does your life reflect a tendency to emulate the Corinthian Church or are you a reflection of the Holy Spirit's working within you?

THE ABSOLUTE NEED OF PRAYER

Abraham Lincoln made this statement, "Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving, too proud to PRAY to the God that made us."

Prayer is highly essential in living a Christian life. You cannot live a Christian life without prayer.

Jesus taught us how to pray by giving us what is commonly called the Lord's Prayer. Matthew 6:9-13. He, Himself, often prayed. There is a saying, PRAYER CHANGES THINGS. It does.

We are informed in I Timothy 2:8, "I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting."

There are two types of prayer. Public and private. Public prayers are those during Church services, burial services, or where there are a group of worshippers.

Private prayer is between one individual and God. It is a worthy act to have a place of secret prayer and to go there regularly. Set a time to meet God there. He will not disappoint you. HE WILL BE THERE if your going there has a worthy cause.

The disciples, knowing that Jesus often prayed, said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray." I know ministers who want fifteen to thirty minutes of privacy, to pray before their time to preach. Most offer this prayer before leaving home.

To live a Christian life without prayer is about as useless as carrying a lamp without oil or a bulb.

Years ago prayer meetings were engaged in on a regular basis by many churches, not just the so-called plain Churches. That much needed service has almost died out. But, if it is announced that a famous man, or a famous singer will be there a certain night, they will draw a much larger crowd than if the minister announced there would be their regular services.

D. L. Moody was invited to a certain church in the Middle West as their full time minister. They wrote a very appealing letter stating they had over one hundred and fifty members. Also, a modern church house with an ideal location. Mr. Moody wrote back and asked how many they have at their mid-week prayer

meeting. They wrote back from sixteen to twenty. He wrote them that that number 20 was the real strength of their church and rejected the call.

Someone has said, "We talk more about prayer and preach more about prayer than we pray. On an average, there is much better attendance at a business meeting than at a prayer meeting. The place for private prayer is called a lonely place because it is so neglected.

Christ said, "When thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut the door, pray to thy Father which is in secret..." Matt. 6:6. Christ was not emphasizing the place as much as He was emphasizing privacy. He was as much as saying, "Get alone and pray." Jesus set an example for us. When He wanted to pray, He departed into a solitary place. Mark 1:35. Occasionally He left the disciples and went into the mountains where He spent much time in prayer.

He often went into the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. Luke 22:39. When He went there to pray for the last time He settled once and for all His place in the plan of redemption. Had Jesus failed in His plan of redemption, we would be without hope and without God in this world. Ephesians 2:12. It required His death on the cross to pay for our redemption.

I believe God, looking down from Heaven and seeing His only Son in prayer in Gethsemane, knew Christ Jesus would not fail in prayer. And because He knew, He planned a Pentecost, He planned a church, He planned a Rapture, He planned a Resurrection and He planned a New Jerusalem.

What a prayer Jesus prayed. In agony He prayed until His sweat became as great drops of blood. Jesus was alone when He prayed the PRAYER OF GETHSEMANE. This prayer was the greatest prayer prayed by the greatest man who ever graced the earth.

To Be Continued
Brother Paul R. Myers
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ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"Your Speech"

Have you ever heard the children's rhyme, "Sticks and stones can break my bones, but names can never hurt me." I doubt that anything could be farther from the truth. "Names" can and do hurt us deeply. They destroy people if they are not carefully chosen. Our speech, of course, can also bless and build up and as Christians, it should always be a challenge to use it in this way.

The Word instructs us about the power of words. It teaches us that "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger." "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver." When Jesus spoke in the synagogue at Nazareth, His hometown, the people didn't agree with Him and yet they spoke well of Him and wondered at the words He spoke. Peter preached his powerful sermon at Pentecost and the people who heard him were cut to the heart and asked what they should do to be saved.

Our thoughts and feelings are passed to each other via words. Speech is the sound that comes from our lips and throats as we talk and language is the organization of words that are used in speaking to one another. Words are binding, separating, exciting, bland... but always bring some sort of response from the hearer. Jesus knew the power of words and He gave us many instructions about how Christians are to use them. He also warned us not to use them carelessly.

Christian speech must be sincere. Because words express so much power, it is important that they be true. People only learn to trust you as you speak the truth. Sincerity and truth are closely related. It is dishonest to say one thing and mean another. It is strongly condemned in the Bible.

Another form of dishonesty is stretching the truth. Some people actually lie by communicating in such a way that unsuspecting people believe what they only assume to be the truth of the statement.

In reality, silence can be a form of untruth when a word could be said to clear up truth. To be silent in such a case is to be dishonest.

Mixing truth with a lie might well be the most dangerous form of communication that we could consider. We might relate that to a bag of sugar that would be filled with half sugar and half white sand... or milk that is half water. Half-truths are adulterated. They are attempts to mislead by "double talk."

To be sincere is to be genuine... not counterfeit. When we say something as a Christian, we should not have to be tested. Our heart should be so pure that a false motive is not even a consideration.

It would appear that there are some people with emotional problems who cannot tell truth from falsehood. These people frequently have trouble functioning in our society without getting in trouble with the law. The only possible hope for these individuals is a complete conversion to the Lord. Jesus CAN change their lives.

Our speech must not only be honest but helpful to others. We are to "comfort one another." This means to stand alongside one

who is in trouble and give them strength. Productive words are valuable gifts!

Comfort can be conveyed to people who are ill by reading Scripture to them or just by allowing them to pour out their feelings to you. For older people who can no longer read or write, you can be a valuable asset to them by using your gift of speech for encouragement.

Words can be used to teach people the meaning of life and its goals. We are to be ready at all times to give a reason for the hope that is in us... and we are to do this with reverence and gentleness.

Make use of words to teach others. We have a special responsibility to dedicate our lives to communicate the Word of God to those around us. And... to communicate means to make it understandable... not just to spew it out academically.

There are times when we can help people by pointing to faults in their character. This sounds distasteful but Jesus did this on occasion so that a person might grow strong in faith and character. It was always done in kindness and gentleness.

To be overbearing with our speech is to lose friends as well as our opportunity to reach out. No one enjoys being around a "know it all" or a person who will not allow someone else to get involved in a conversation because of his "know it all" attitude.

Godly speech is always clean. We need to choose our words carefully. It is easy in our society to be profane and vulgar because we are around people with this kind of language on a daily basis. Remember that both the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount forbid swearing, taking God's Name in vain, and being unclean in our conversation. Ephesians reinforces the condemnation of unclean speech and filthy talk. This kind of talk tends to make light of sin and has no positive value to the hearer. It encourages immorality and pollutes other people's lives.

Another form of incorrect speech is slander. It is aimed at harming another person's character. If someone tells you a slanderous story about someone, you be the one to try to stop it... or at least refuse to pass it on.

Your speech is of utmost importance. Handle it with care.

Brother Len Wertz

WHEREON THOU STANDEST IS HOLY GROUND

Exodus 3:5, "And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground."

Brothers and Sisters, do we realize the holiness and grandeur of God? Do we approach Him with the respect and honor that He deserves? We can praise God that, as Christians, we are not commanded to "Draw not hither." Rather we are invited to "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." This, however, does not mean that we are to approach God in a frivolous manner.

Not only should we recognize the value of being servants one to another but we should recognize the majesty of our Lord Jesus Christ when we remove our shoes from off our feet and wash one another's feet. Surely our Lovefeast is a time when we are standing on holy ground. Those who refuse to wash feet because it is not popular are losing a blessing from God. When we obey our Lord when He said, in John 13:14, "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet," we prepare our hearts to take of the sacred emblems that are symbolic of our Lord's broken body and shed blood that purchased our salvation.

Because we are washed in the blood of the Lamb we are standing on the holy ground of praise. In Hebrews 13:15 we are instructed, "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name." Our lips are quick to tear one another apart. They are quick to complain and dispute. Can we do these things and "offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually?" We have so much to thank God for. But most of all we should thank Him that He made a way to save us from our sins. While our worship services should be a time of praise, each step we take in life should contain praise to our God. Are we ashamed of our Lord when we are in the company of those who know nothing of our Savior? Does the guile of the world filter into our speech pattern? James 3:10 warns us, "Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessings and cursing, My Brethren, these things ought not so to be." We should remember that each step that we take, as Christians, is on holy ground, each word that we utter should bring praise to our God.

Because we are standing on holy ground we are promised power. In Acts 1:8 we read, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:..." There are all types of power in our world today. Some power is useful, such as electrical power. Some power is tyrannical, such as much of the political power. Some power is destructive such as "black power," "white power," and "mob power." But no power on earth can compare to the power that God gives unto His own. This power can change an alcoholic into an individual who despises strong drink. It can change a thief into an honest individual. It can change a doubter into a believer. While we waste our time trying to compete with the

world by using their methods of the power of God lies at our disposal.

We have this power because we have a possession. We are promised this power "after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." We are told in Scripture that the Holy Ghost shall "dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." We do not stand on holy ground all by ourselves. The Holy Spirit will give us the power to meet each demand of life. When we are tempted the Holy Spirit will give us the power to overcome if we are willing. When we are discouraged the Holy Spirit will encourage us to continue on. When we are sick the Holy Spirit can bring healing, according to God's divine will.

When we recognize that we are standing on holy ground it should give us the desire to practice our faith. Praise is important. The power of God in our lives is a reality. The possession of the Holy Spirit gives us the strength we need. But all this is vain if we do not practice a life of obedience.

We believe our Brethren forefathers recognized that they were standing on holy ground when they called upon God for leadership. We believe God answered their prayers and revealed to them what His desire was for their lives. There were no golden plates given by an angel. There was no vision given to a man or woman. There was no great new interpretation given to better understand the Holy Bible. There were no great signs and wonders given unto them. But there was an acknowledgement of the holiness of God and the reliability of Holy Scripture. They were given the understanding to continue to observe many of the things that all Christians of their time believed and practiced, which the modern religious system says is not needed or even scriptural. They also revived many of the things the first century Christians practiced. When we take these teachings lightly we should remember that we are standing on holy ground in answer to a Holy God!

If we are faithful, the day will come when we will stand on the holy ground of Heaven, itself. Then perfect praise will come from our lips. We will enjoy the power of a sinless life. The Holy Ghost will be our companion and friend. There will be no more striving to practice our faith. Let us look forward to this day with joy and anticipation.

Friend, are you standing on holy ground? Have you received the joy of the forgiveness of your sins? Have you been washed in the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ? Have you been immersed in the stream of baptism? If not, God is calling for you to "put off thy shoes from off thy feet" and call upon Him today. Humble yourself before Him and repent and He will answer and set you upon holy ground.

Brother James M. Hite
816 E. Birch St.
Palmyra, PA 17078

SIXTY YEARS AGO

October 15, 1932

THE CHURCH MILITANT

Grant Mahan

We speak of the church militant and the church triumphant, and we are supposed to be the church militant. A militant church is a fighting church; and a fighting church must have some enemies against whom to wage war. And we have such enemies, many of them. They are persistent fighters, more so than many of us are; which is one of the great reasons why the church has not made more progress and does not have a greater influence in the world today.

But who are the enemies against whom we must fight? Near the close of his life, Paul said he had fought a good fight. Against whom or against what did he fight? A study of his life shows that he wrestled not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. He tells us that the weapons of our warfare are not carnal. And though he suffered much from the Jews, from the heathen and from the Romans, he never used physical force to overcome those who were opposed to him and his work which he was sent to do.

The same was true of Jesus during His ministry; He could and did control nature, man, and the evil spirits that possessed men at that time, but He never used physical force to overcome any of the enemies of man. He did not fight with carnal weapons, for His kingdom was not and is not of this world.

He came not to destroy the wicked, but the wickedness that is in man. It is Satan and his power over man that must be destroyed through the power of Christ, that man, and man's soul may be saved. And our warfare is not easy. Paul said we must learn to endure hardness as good soldiers of Jesus Christ. But the Christian must ever remember that his warfare is not one of hatred, of extermination, but of love and salvation. Jesus came to seek and to save the lost; and we must do the same if we would be like Him.

There are so many things to fight; so many evils round and about us, and too often within us. The great majority of them are little things, often considered unimportant; but none of them are unimportant, for they all tend to lead men and women astray, to head them toward the kingdom of Satan instead of toward the kingdom of God. Not the speed at which we go, but the direction in which we travel day by day tells what our final destination will be.

We are often turned out of the right way by such little things. These so called little, insignificant things are anything but what they are called; for out of them are the issues of life. Our real success, our happiness both here and hereafter, depend on the way we handle these things. And we cannot be good soldiers of Jesus Christ if we treat them in any other way than that in which He would treat them. We must conquer them or they will conquer us. To conquer in this fight means life; to be conquered in the fight means unhappiness and death. It is here, now, that the stand must be taken, the battle must be waged; there are no furloughs, there is no time when we can be off guard, for he who opposes us and seeks to destroy us, is never off guard, he is always looking for entrance to the citadel, the heart, and his persistence is one among his greatest means of overcoming so many. Let this fact not be forgotten.

The church as a whole has not always been on her guard; that is why the enemy has made so many and so great inroads on the kingdom of Christ here on earth. If we would win we must fight more earnestly, with all our strength.

YOUR FACE TELLS A STORY

What is displayed on your face tells others what is really in your heart. If Jesus has really set you free from sin, let others know it. Smile. Be friendly and show your concern to others. Be a friend. Love on your face; genuine love, will do more than many half-hearted church meetings.

Don't just smile, but learn to listen to what others have to say. Many people are lonely and hurting and need an ear to hear their problems.

Don't be afraid to shake their hand. Be warm. A warm hand will speak volumes to those who need one. In this busy, crowded world, people are lonely. They not only need a friend, but they need God. Christ died for them as well as for us. Don't just let them pass you by. They possess an ever-living soul which will spend eternity either in heaven or in hell. Show a genuine concern for them. Show them that you are interested in them and their soul. Share what you have with them. Share the Gospel with them. It is the purpose of the Church to declare the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In order to win others, we must first win their respect, their confidence, and their trust. Don't think for one minute that God will bless a ministry that has no work and preparation and prayer behind it.

So smile, square your shoulders, and go out to meet them. Do not be ashamed of the Gospel.

Brother Lynn H. Miller
RD #2 Box 561
Newmanstown, PA 17073

A CHURCH GARDEN

Three rows of squash

1. squash indifference
2. squash criticism
3. squash gossip

Four rows of turnips

1. turn up for meetings
2. turn up for a smile
3. turn up with a visitor
4. turn up with a Bible

Five rows of lettuce

1. let us love one another
2. let us welcome strangers
3. let us be faithful to duty
4. let us truly worship God
5. let us give liberally

Selected by Bro. Ray Stuber

OBITUARIES

SARAH ROESCH

Sister Sarah Elizabeth Roesch, daughter of Richard and Susan (Plaughter) Jarboe was born at Conway Springs, Kansas, September 9, 1903 and departed this life in her home, in West Unity, Ohio, on August 6, 1992, at the age of 88 years.

She had been in failing health since February when she fell and broke her hip.

She moved with her parents to Colorado in her youth. On February 17, 1923 she was united in marriage to Melvin Roesch. To this union were born five daughters, one passed away in infancy. The family made their home in Colorado until they moved to Fostoria, Ohio in December 1941. In August 1944, the family moved to Wauseon, Ohio. Bro. Melvin and Sis. Sarah had lived in West Virginia from 1957 to 1971.

Sis. Sarah was eager to be in church services when possible and loved singing.

She was preceded in death by her husband and daughter, Lucille Rupp in January 1986. She leaves to mourn her passing, three daughters, Sister Charles (Maxine) Leatherman of Wauseon, Ohio; Sister Wayne (Ruby) Pike of West Unity, Ohio; Sister Beulah Swihart of Goshen, Indiana; twelve grandchildren and twenty-four great-grandchildren. Also two sisters-in-law, Bertha Jarboe of Grandview, Missouri, and Hazel Roesch of Los Animas, Colorado. Also left to mourn are many nieces and nephews, many friends and those of the Faith across the Brotherhood.

Just a prayer from one who loved you,
Just in memory fond and true,
In my heart you'll live forever,
Because I thought the world of you.

It broke my heart to lose you,
But you did not go alone,
For part of me went with you,
The day that you went home.

A million times I miss you,
A million times I've cried,
If love could have saved you,
You never would have died.

A smile for all,
A heart of Gold,
One of the best,
This world could hold.

Never selfish always kind,
These are the memories you left behind,
Deep in my heart you will always stay,
Loved and remembered everyday.

Sadly missed by us all.

The following poem was selected by Sis. Mary Swihart to accompany this obituary.

That Bright Tomorrow

Lift up your hearts from sorrowing.
For my Lord I've gone to see.
Be not sad; but now rejoicing,
It's such a glorious day for me.

Can't you hear the angels singing.
Oh just see the Saints rejoice,
As they welcome me to heaven,
For I've made the Lord my choice.

The Lord just opened up His pearly gates,
So that I could enter in.
He dressed me in my beautiful robe,
I'm so glad it covers my sin.

'Twas the Lord that called me home,
So wipe the teardrops from your eye;
For I'm feasting with the Saints,
At that great banquet in the sky.

'Tis a beautiful morning in Heaven,
The one I'd longed to see;
And I'll meet you some bright morning,
We'll walk together in Heaven's glory.

So dear ones – abound in God's love,
In joy; abandon your sorrow;
With Jesus Christ as your Saviour,
We'll be united in Heaven tomorrow.

ALICE SKILES

Sister Alice Elizabeth (Cover) Skiles was born November 4, 1896, in Covington, Ohio to Joseph M. and Anna (Mohler) Cover. She came from humble origins and lived in a gentle spirit of humility before God with her family of two brothers and four sisters.

She was united in marriage to Ora Samuel Skiles on February 28, 1923, with whom she lived for sixty-six years before he preceded her in death three years ago. To this union were born three sons and two daughters: Ora, Jr. of Modesto, California; Nita (Alt) of Wee Waa, Australia; Esther (Boone) of Dubbo, Australia; Daniel Clinton of Santa Rosa, California; and David of Cuba, New Mexico.

Alice had learned from early childhood to appreciate the glory of God's handiwork in her natural surroundings. This was evident in her love of flowers, trees, and birds, of which she seemed to always know the names. She had great knowledge of the Word of God (much of which she committed to memory), appreciated poetry, and had a gift of music and singing. We remember her singing throughout each day. She had time for each of her children and made each child feel special without showing favoritism.

Alice was in love with her Savior and modeled a reverent spirit and a desire to know God and His Son Jesus Christ. She taught that God was watching all we do as well as being providential in His care. Her love for the church and the fellowship of the saints was central to her life. She served the Lord as a loving and respectful wife, modeling motherhood and marriage. She, along with her husband, served for a year at the Torreon Navajo Mission.

She loved to travel, and all trips long or short were pleasant adventures. She was ready to go and viewed life as a journey which ends in the city of God. She made her final journey August 15, 1992.

Alice (Cover) Skiles is survived by her five children, sixteen grandchildren, thirty-three great-grandchildren, one brother, James; two sisters, Ruth Barton and Ella Wagoner; and a host of other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Ora, Sr.; one brother, Joseph; two sisters, Orpha Barton and Esther Wagner; and one grandson, Michael Boone.

The family wishes to express thanks for the many expressions of love and help during Alice's last years and death. We are grateful for all those who ministered to her by visiting, singing, and especially those who took her to church each Sunday.

Her children rise up and call her blessed, and eagerly anticipate meeting her again where journeys end.

Funeral services were held August 20 in the Pleasant Home Dunkard Brethren Church, Modesto, California, with Rudy Cover opening and Michael Wray giving the message. The service at the grave was conducted by Joseph L. and Leslie Cover. Burial was in the Wood Colony Cemetery.

MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new address and telephone number of Bro. Mark Cordrey is: 4025 Woodland, Modesto, California 95358. 209-549-2015.

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

The fourth Saturday of October is soon, to remind us of our Lovefeast date. If the Lord tarry, we will begin at 11:00 A.M., afternoon at 2:00 and 7:00. Come and help us make it a special occasion.

Nothing brings more joy in our Christian walk than to have others join on the way to Glory. Neva Boone, wife of Steve Boone and mother of two sons and two daughters, made that decision and was received on her former baptism. May our prayers continue to ascend for the faithfulness of each of us.

Sister Ruth Speicher, Cor.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation (Act of August 12, 1970; Section 3685, Title 39, United States Code). Showing the ownership, management and circulation of The Bible Monitor, published semi-monthly at Wauseon, Ohio 43567, October 15, 1992.

1. The names and addresses of the editor, publishers, and owners are: EDITOR, Milton Cook, 1138 East 12th Street, Beaumont, CA 92223; PUBLISHER, Tomahawk Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, OH 43567; OWNER, Dunkard Brethren Church, 1138 East 12th Street, Beaumont, CA 92223.

2. There are no stockholders, bond holders or other security holders.

3. The average number of copies per issue distributed by mail and otherwise the previous twelve months was 1,353.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR NOVEMBER 1992

November 1 - Azariah of Judah; Zachariah, King of Israel - II Kings 15:1-12. (II Kings 15:13-38)

1. How did Azariah transgress in later life? II Chron. 26:16-18.
2. Why are the mothers of the kings recorded?

November 8 - Ahaz, King of Judah - II Kings 16:1-20.

1. List the sins of King Ahaz.
2. What did Ahaz see and desire in Damascus?

November 15 - Israel Taken to Assyria - II Kings 17:1-41.

1. What happened to the children of Israel at the hand of Assyria?
2. Why did God allow this captivity? verse 7.

November 22 - THANKSGIVING - Nehemiah 12:27-47.

1. Have you pondered God's blessing of a Godly heritage?
2. Are you serving God out of a grateful heart?

November 29 - Hezekiah Prays to God - II Kings 19:1-37. (II Kings 18:1-37)

1. What was Hezekiah's prayer?
2. How did God answer his prayer?

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR NOVEMBER 1992

November 1 - Popularity - John 12:35-50, Colossians 3:22-25.

1. Whose approval do you value?
2. Whose reward are we seeking?

November 8 - Commandments - Ex. 20:1-16, Matt. 19:17-22, I John 5:1-3.

1. What are the consequences of ignoring God's commands?
2. What are the rewards for keeping them?

November 15 - Come and Dine - Luke 14:16-24, John 21:10-13.

1. At whose table are you feasting?

November 22 - THANKSGIVING - Psalms 107:1-20, I Timothy 4:1-8.

1. Does your life radiate an attitude of gratitude?
2. How are you expressing gratefulness to God and man?

November 29 - The Lame Man - Acts 3:1-12.

1. What did the Apostles have for the lame man?
2. Are we giving "what we have" in the name of the Lord?

Paul Stump
10340 N. Diamond Mill
Union, OH 45322

(USPS 054-780)

BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXX

NOVEMBER 1, 1992

NO. 21

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

WHEN JESUS, OUR GREAT MASTER, CAME

When Jesus, our great Master,
came,
To teach us in his Father's name.
In ev'ry act, in ev'ry tho't,
He lived the precepts which he
taught.

So let our lips and lives express
The holy Gospel we profess;
So let our works and virtues shine,
To prove the doctrine all divine.

Thus shall we best proclaim abroad
The honors of our Savior, God,
When his salvation reigns within,
And grace subdues the pow'r of sin.

Our flesh and sense must be denied,
Ambition, envy, lust, and pride;
While justice, temp'rance, truth, and
love
Our inward piety approve.

Religion bears our spirits up,
While we expect that blessed hope,
That bright appearance of the Lord,
And faith stands leaning on his Word.

- Isaac Watts

EPHESIANS 4:1

How many times have you read a passage of scripture, assenting to the thought found there, but not being especially struck by its truth and application? This is a common experience, for the Bible is the Word of God and we are unable to take in all that is in God's mind. There comes a time when that passage is read and the truth, that has been concealed from us in the past, suddenly comes alive in the heart and mind. The Spirit understands our weaknesses and limitations, so He opens to us these truths as we are able to accommodate them.

The Apostle Paul, writing directly to the Ephesians and indirectly to us, presents a truth that should bear very directly upon our efforts in living a Christian life. To understand the point Paul is trying to convey, we must first have experienced the message contained in the first three chapters of the Epistle to the Ephesians. There Paul draws our minds to the price God has paid so we could have the right relationship with Him. He sent His Son to become the propitiation for our sins and shortcomings, shedding His righteous blood as a sacrifice for our unrighteousness. To make the transaction complete He rose from the dead for our justification. Now, we would no longer need to pay the deserved price for our sins and we could be accounted a child of God. This gave us a relationship that would lift us to Heavenly places in Christ Jesus. God was now opening the way to His Kingdom to the whole world, not just the Jews. Those who would accept His offer upon His terms could be a part of His Spiritual family.

Paul had had every advantage as a Jew, as well as a Roman citizen, but he had given it all up so he could follow Christ. He addressed them as a prisoner of the Lord. He was not only a

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prisoner, physically, in a Roman jail, but he considered himself to be the Lord's prisoner. He was willing to be used as the Lord would direct. He saw his greatest freedom was not in doing what he pleased but in doing what the Lord would have him do. He would recommend that those to whom he wrote would also become prisoners of the Lord.

Paul's request was in the form of a plea. His call was much stronger than a request. He was not interested in their obedience so it would benefit himself. He was pleading with them to adopt this lifestyle for their own good. It would prove to be beneficial to them. It would also be a glory and an honor to the Lord. He was very insistent that their lives would be accord with what had transpired in the first three chapters.

Three words, "walk", "worthy" and "vocation", are very important in understanding what Paul is speaking of in the last three chapters of this epistle. A "vocation" is a calling. Our occupations should be more than jobs; they should be callings. We should be able to see how our work accomplishes a worthwhile purpose. It may not be high paying or of high status, but if it provides a needed service or product, it is a calling. Paul is speaking of a calling higher than our occupations. He speaks of the calling from God through Christ Jesus for each to become a part of His family. Since His call is so high, a special lifestyle is needed to correspond.

Our journey through this life is accomplished by our day by day walk. To make progress we must make the journey, step by step. It takes one foot in front of the other, constantly moving forward to complete the journey. Our Christian walk includes all that we do. Hopefully that walk is going forward, not remaining static or going backward.

The walk should be worthy of the calling. Since the calling is a high calling in Christ Jesus, our walk should be a Christ-honoring walk. The idea of being worthy is to make them equal. Just as high as Christ's calling is so should be the effort put into the walk. Jesus gave His all for the benefit of sinners. Once sinners have accepted that gift, they should gratefully give as great an effort in living their new-found lives to honor Him. We have been bought with a high price. God could give no greater price. We should willingly give of our time, effort and finances to walk in a way consistent with the way He has shown us. The walk should be consistent with what God has revealed in His Word through the Holy Spirit's direction.

The first three chapters of Ephesians is devoted to the establishment of our soul's salvation. The last three chapters detail the ways that we should walk so we are walking in a way worthy of the price paid. Without the provision of the plan of salvation we would be lost without hope. Without the instructions concerning our walk,

there would be a void, that each might try to fill just to suit themselves.

Are you the Lord's prisoner, walking in a way worthy of the high calling in Christ Jesus?

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"Family Devotions"

Families... especially young families with children... need to have family devotions on a routine basis. If they are going to deal with the problems and pressures of this age, there is no other way to gain the strength that comes from this intimate family time with God. It allows your life's focus to be in the right direction. It provides a learning environment that shuts out the world in the security of the home.

In our family, we found that right after the evening meal was the best time to learn and worship together. We have spent more than an hour around the table many evenings sharing from the Word and learning about God's will for our lives. Your time for worship might be in the morning or later in the evening... but whatever time is set, make it a special experience... one to be looked forward to.

There is no question that children feel better when they can have definite standards that are understood and practiced. It provides safeguards when the challenges in the world arise and they can relate back to these times of encouragement and love.

Every family must set time aside to pause and worship the Lord. Be creative in the way you use this time. Share questions, overcome doubts, allow children to express thoughts, attack problems from God's perspective and praise Him for answers. Make it a time of true "togetherness." Learn Scripture verses together... (we learned the Sermon on the Mount) and apply the things that you do and say there to school life and social relationships.

The real success of the family altar will depend on your CONVICTION more than a matter of technique or carefully chosen material. If the child senses your concern, you will have valuable input time.

Children need to see what is important to us as adults... as parents. For example, when supper is ready, you gather around the table whether or not you are absorbed in something else. There is no question about going to school and being there on time. You go to the doctor when you need to and there are times when you might hold a child down for a shot or care for him firmly in the dentist's chair. Are these actions unreasonable or mean? Of course not. You know that the child will grow up and he will see a need for these as continuing practices.

As you consider your family worship time, understand it is vital to the child's and your welfare... thus you must see that it is carried out. Resistance might only be a test of your conviction!

Benefits of family worship and sharing times are many. It tightens the relationship between children and parents. It strengthens the relationship between the husband and wife. It changes the spirit of the home and at times even gives an opportunity to reach out to others. You can be assured that your child will not discard this practice later in life if he finds it beneficial and enjoyable.

Education of our children MUST begin at home. Jesus MUST become central in their lives at an early age. So, begin this practice even before your children are born. You must first be comfortable with the practice before it will feel natural with children later on in the marriage. Parenthood requires that you grow along with your children and that you understand each stage of their development and make proper application of studies and materials that apply to the children at each step. This is a step by step program and certainly it has eternal consequences.

May God bless you as you develop an effective family devotion time.

Bro Len Wertz

HOW LONG, O LORD

Revelation 6:9-11, "And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled."

Down through the ages of church history martyrdom has been a part of the experience of true believers. While those who lost their lives for the word of God and for the testimony which they held declared it a joy and a privilege to be worthy to die for the cause of Christ, we are sure that the loved ones left behind often raised the question, "How long, O Lord?". This portion of Scripture seems to suggest that the same question was echoed in the portals of Heaven.

We know that there are still those who are being killed for the true Faith even in our own time. How sad it is that most Christians in America are not willing to LIVE for Christ, let alone die for His cause. While most Christians are not called to die for

the cause of Christ, we do suffer problems in our everyday lives. This also sometimes causes us to ask the question, "How long, O Lord?". The writer of the seventy-third Psalm had questions that many of us still have today.

In verses 13 and 14 he says, "Verily I have cleansed my heart in vain, and washed my hands in innocence. For all the day long have I been plagued, and chastened every morning." There are those of us who question why we must suffer physical distress when we attempt to live a pure life and keep our bodies spiritually clean.

Many times Christians are wronged in this life and seem to suffer when innocent while the guilty party seems to be living a life of pleasure. We can understand the cry of the Psalmist if we are in this condition. In verse 16 he says, "When I thought to know this, it was too painful for me;" But, praise God, this is not the end of the sentence. He finished in verse 17 with the words, "Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end." While we may cry, "How long, O Lord?", we can find sweet peace when we come into the sanctuary of God in prayer. In Revelation 8:3 we read, "And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne."

Those that were under the altar in chapter 6 of Revelation were instructed that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow-servants also and their brethren that should be killed as they were should be fulfilled. We must remember that these were souls of men who were already in eternity. "A little season" in light of eternity can be a long time upon the earth. As we stated before, individuals are still losing their lives for the cause of Christ. But we can be assured that the time will come when this will no longer be the case. In the meantime we must be careful that we do not try to take things in our own hands, as many so called Christians (God is the final judge) do today. They would encourage you to take human life to destroy the forces of evil. They teach that we that have the opportunity must get involved in politics to right that which is wrong. We must remember that political involvement leads to political pacifism which is a false substitute for true biblical non-resistance. The Apostle Paul, through the leading of the Holy Spirit, instructs us in Romans 12:18-19, "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

When we are obedient to the teaching of Christ we can be assured of the statement of the Psalmist in verse 24. "Thou shalt

guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory." Praise God, we will some day go from, "How long, O Lord?" to "It has certainly been worth it all!" Glory, Hallelujah! Brothers and sisters do not be weary in well doing.

Is our desire and assurance in line with the statement of the Psalmist in verse 25? "Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee." Do we truly love and trust God with all our heart? Or does, "How long, O Lord?" rob us of our joy in the Lord?

We know that we are all human but we can still rest in our Lord. As the Psalmist says it so well in verse 26. "My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever."

In the midst of our question, "How long, O Lord?" may we experience the sweet peace of our Lord. If you have never experienced the forgiveness of your sins through the shed blood of Jesus Christ and baptism you cannot have this peace in the midst of tribulation. You have only an eternity of suffering to look forward to. Heaven is real but so is Hell. Salvation and an obedient life is the Bible way to gain the one and escape the other.

Brother James M. Hite
816 E. Birch St.
Palmyra, PA 17078

SIXTY YEARS AGO

November 1, 1932

THE CHURCH AND ITS VALUE TO ME

A. G. Fahnestock

David said "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord." (Psa. 122:1.)

David had found something that could be obtained in going to the house of the Lord, that many others have not found; therefore it has made him glad for the opportunity of going.

I wonder whether all of us recognize that something. The apostle Paul calls our attention to the fact, that in his time there were those who have not found it, and therefore have forsaken the assembly; and he further warns us, as in the later days. (Heb. 10:25.)

No doubt Paul noticed that there were, and will be those who will not know the value of the church. According to statistics Paul had some foresight. Surely there are many who have not found the full

value of the church, because they have not made use of the church opportunities. Members of a worldly organization display their interest by their presence and so forth, and tell us of the value of their meetings; and this cannot be compared with the far greater value of the church to the Christian.

Do we know its value?

Each individual is largely responsible for the value placed on or found in the church.

It is like the farmer who buys his implements, the value of a plow to him, is not what it cost the manufacturer to build, nor the price the farmer paid. The actual value is only determined by the way he takes care of it and makes use of it.

The one who will leave his plow to the elements of the weather, will find trouble on hand when he wants to use it, therefore of less value. It is the shortsighted farmer that reduces its value. The farsighted farmer wants the best value and therefore protects it, and keeps it in good condition; he reaps the benefit when that plow without difficulty turns down the weeds, so as to grow corn, and so forth.

There are too many shortsighted people in the church of today. May the scales fall from their eyes so that they may have a clear vision of what is before them.

About 25 years ago I was invited to take the noon meal with a certain family; after thanks was given for the meal, the little boy said, "I want a piece of cake." Father sternly replied, "No, you follow the regular routine." But the boy insisted on having cake and finally mother said, "Well give him a piece." After he had devoured it, he wanted the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th piece. Father each time with more stress said, "No," but mother with her heart of love and sympathy said, "Oh well give him another piece." The boy received the five pieces of cake. My question to you reader is: which one loved the son? Father, who spoke in unquestionable terms, or was it mother? There are too many parents, members, deacons, elders, and preachers in the church of today who represent mother, they have a shortsighted love. I pray God that all officials and especially elders and bishops who permit short sightedness to rob them of wisdom, that they would at least resign from their position for the sake of the souls of humanity and not lessen the value and power of the church. May we open our eyes and understanding to the great value of the church, with the wonderful and many opportunities it offers.

May none of us lessen its value, or blast the opportunities for the rising generation.

May our lives and conduct be such, that it will give the church more power and stay the hand of the enemy with his mighty forces.

The Christian is an asset to the church of Jesus Christ, not a liability.

If we want to save our souls and the souls of rising generation, we must pave the way by maintaining the value of His church.

My dear brother and sister ask yourself the question: Have I fully cut loose from the world, lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, the pride of life, selfish interests, envy and so forth, and have I the faith which was once delivered unto the saints? Have I added to this faith: virtue (a habit to conform to the law of right), knowledge (a clear and certain appreciation of the truth), temperance (habitual moderation), patience, Godliness, charity and brotherly kindness?

Have I recognized the value of the church and am I doing my best to maintain it?

After meditating upon this question may we apply our hearts unto wisdom.

THE ABSOLUTE NEED OF PRAYER

Part 2

As long as we are conscious of the presence of others, as long as we are phrasing our prayers for the ears of those with whom we pray we are not in the closest contact with Heaven.

Many places are available for private prayer. You can find your closest closet near or in your home. We are living in a very wicked age. Praying alone to God in a secret place does several beneficial things. It relieves the burden that is heavy on our heart. When we finish praying, we should give God time to consider the answer. A thought that I always liked is, "TAKE IT TO THE LORD AND LEAVE IT THERE."

To make these PRIVATE CLOSETS there are many ways. As I mentioned above, a private closet or room in our home is ideal. On our knees by our bed of slumber, when we retire is an ideal place and time. The woods, the bank of a river, a mountain top and other natural locations are other places away from life's hustle and bustle. We can and should pray when we start an automobile or go on an airplane. Not bragging, I have held a number of revivals. I made every effort to get inside the church during the day to pray for that evening's meeting there.

I heard father tell when he was a boy at home that an elderly neighbor man could not be found at a certain time of every day. His wife and children hunted the place over, but could not find him. One early Fall day he passed away. That Fall when it came threshing time, it was necessary that they clean out the granary, as it was called, located close to the threshing floor. There they found the secret to their father and husband's daily absence. Hanging from a nail in the granary was a board, long enough to kneel on.

Written on one side were these words, "MY prayer Board, Dad." His secret closet was the granary, with the door shut.

It is much easier to find a solitary place in which to pray than it is to shut the door and shut the mind to everything but prayer. You will find God in your prayer, and when you leave you will depart with a blessing.

When I was still at home, we had a German family living on a farm about a mile from our place. It was a large family with several big boys. They farmed alot of land. It was a strict rule that everyone was at the breakfast table. Before breakfast, they held family worship. While they were in hay making, with a lot of hay laying, this particular morning when they arose, a thunder storm was brewing. The father said they would skip worship and try to get the hay in before it rains. They started with the tractor and worked a short time and burned out a bearing. They had to abandon the tractor and hitch a team of horses. On their first round, one of the horses stepped in a post hole and broke its leg. The father took off his old straw hat and waved everybody to the house. He stated that they paid a big price for not having family worship that morning. God heard their prayers. The thunderstorm passed by and several neighbors who hearing of their trouble brought their equipment, and by nightfall their hay was in the barn, safe and dry. This is absolutely true as I went to school with these boys and heard them tell it several times.

To be alone in prayer is a glorious feeling.

The song, "Alone With God" has much meaning and is very touching. When we seek Jesus alone, it is generally due to some particular need. God wants private time with His children.

When we read His Holy Words, He is talking to us. When we pray, we are talking to Him. At times Jesus knelt in prayer. I believe that kneeling is the most important position. It shows humbleness and submissiveness to His Holy Being.

There are circumstances today that we need to very earnestly pray for. The sick and infirm in our Brotherhood need the prayers of our Brotherhood. We need to pray for unity in the church.

People who are hungry and have no home, world peace, less crime and sin and battered women are just a few of subjects needing, above all else, our prayers. Similarly, we should always pray for the sinner that he or she might find Jesus precious to their souls.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Vic McGrew

Oh, that we could turn back the hands of time
And live as in by-gone days.

When men and nations looked to thee, Lord.
And on bended knee gave thee praise.
When the rulers of nations stood firm for the right
And the plan for liberty and justice was heard
Give the men who stand free from compromise,
Who stand true and loyal to the Word,
Bravely proclaiming, "Thus saith the Lord",
And will shout it till the whole world has heard.
By divine decree repeat the mandate
That prevents prayers in school being said.
Give power and voices to the loyal and true
And rule that Holy Scriptures can be read.
Lord, hold back the tide of vice and crime
That engulfs our sinful world today.
And send a Holy Ghost Revival in Jesus name, we pray.
Forgive us all our sinful ways
And our trusting in the wisdom of men.
May we look to thee, Lord, to heal our nation's woes
And trust You to cleanse and save us, Amen.

Brother Paul R. Myers
5005 Higbee Ave., N.W.
Canton, Ohio 44718

WHY MUST I BE BAPTIZED TO BE SAVED?

W. E. Bashor

Because Christ said so. Mark 16:16. No better answer can be given. No truer answer can be given, by one who believes the teaching of Christ.

There is no cleansing power in the water into which one is immersed in baptism. The power to cleanse is in the blood of Christ. The water is simply an instrument employed by Christ, to measure or test the faith of the one who desires to be saved and cleansed of his sins. Baptism is the time and place at which Christ would forgive our sins. Acts 2:38. At that time and place God applies the blood of Christ to the sinner. The blood washes away the guilt and the stain of sin and erases the penalty which is due.

Paul in Romans 6:3-4, says, "that we are baptized into the death of Christ." We therefore obtain the benefits of that death at baptism. Christ shed His blood in His death. We are baptized into His death. Therefore, when we are baptized, we are brought into contact with His blood. Baptism is the point of contact with His blood.

In Galatians 3:26-27, the Apostle tells us that we are the sons of God through faith, and that we are sons of God in Christ. The reason He gives is that, "as many as were baptized in Christ have put on Christ." How many put on Christ? "As many as were baptized into Christ." Therefore we are baptized into contact with His blood.

In Ephesians 2:12-13, we are told that those who were once "without Christ aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world; but now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ."

We are made nigh by the blood of Christ, because we are baptized into Christ. Therefore we are baptized into contact with the blood of Christ. Baptism is the point of contact.

History of the purpose of Baptism

The Bible in several places stresses the importance of baptism, yet there are many Churches today who do not believe that water baptism is necessary to be saved. Jesus said, in John 3:5, "Except a man be born of the water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." Peter, on the day of Pentecost, in answer to the people's question, "what shall we do"? said "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ FOR the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

I wish to refer to the early historians and see what the early Christian writers considered the purpose of baptism to be. First, I want to state that all the early Christian writers are agreed on the purpose of baptism.

The first is Justin Martyr, who was baptized by Polycarp, and he was baptized by the Apostle John. Here is what he says, "Those who are convinced of the truth of our doctrine, and have promised to live according to it, are exhorted to prayer, fasting and repentance for past sins: Then they are led by us to a place where is water, and in this way they are regenerated, that is, they receive the water-bath in the name of God, the Father, Jesus Christ, and of the Holy Ghost. The baptismal bath is called also illumination because those who receive it are enlightened in the understanding."

The next is Clement of Alexandria, who wrote in the third century. This is what he says, "Accordingly, they confess that the spirit in repentance retraces its steps. In the same way, therefore, we also, repenting of our sins, renouncing our iniquities, purified by baptism, speed back to the eternal light, children to the Father."

The next is Tertullian, who also wrote in the second century. He says, "When however the prescript is laid down that without baptism, salvation is attainable of none."

I could go on and quote more historians on this subject, but to me this is enough to show what the early church, before it fell into the hands of the Roman Church, had to say about the rite of baptism. They certainly say there is no salvation without it. There is no commandment taught by Christ and His Apostles that is not necessary.

I was once asked if I thought that baptism in three immersions was necessary to be saved. I asked him if it took seven dips to cure Naaman of his leprosy. If God commanded Naaman to dip seven times, and he had to dip seven times to be cured, seems to me like when the question is asked how many times did Christ command, to be dipped, to fulfill the language in the great commission, the answer is three. Who has the right to change it, and think any less will do.

One passage in the scriptures we are all familiar with is Hebrews 2:1-3, "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by the angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward: how shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation: which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard Him."

I want to say that the minister who doesn't preach baptism by trine immersion for the remission of sins, doesn't preach the whole gospel or the Word of God found in the New Testament. There is too much scripture on this subject to be mistaken.

Selected from Bible Monitor
By Sister Betty Walker

THE WAY TO GOD

If my days were untroubled and my heart always light,
Would I seek that fair land where there is no night?
If I never grew weary with the weight of my load,
Would I search for God's Peace at the end of the road?
If I never knew sickness and never felt pain,
Would I reach for a hand to help and sustain?

If I walked not with sorrow and lived without loss,
Would my soul seek sweet solace at the foot of the cross?
If all I desired was mine day by day,
Would I kneel before God and earnestly pray?
If God sent no "Winter" to freeze me with fear,
Would I yearn for the warmth of "Spring" every year?

I ask myself this and the answer is plain;
If my life were all pleasure and I never knew pain,
I'd seek God less often and need Him much less,
For God's sought more often in times of distress,
And no one knows God or sees Him as plain
As those who have met Him on the "Pathway of Pain."

Selected by Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein

OBITUARY

DORA SPURGEON

Sister Dora Rebecca Spurgeon, the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Peters) Baughman was born November 9, 1891, in St. Joseph County, Indiana, near Teegarten. She died October 18, 1992 at Cherry Valley Health Care, Banning, California at the age of one hundred years, eleven months and nine days.

In 1894, the family moved to Cando, North Dakota, where her Grandfather, A. B. Peters, established a German Baptist Colony. Because of the dry summers and the cold winters, they moved from North Dakota to Lordsburg (now LaVerne) California in 1902. Later that year they moved to Wenatchee, Washington, where he established another Brethren colony.

She was afflicted with polio at the age of nine months, which affected her right side. She learned to do the many tasks demanded by a full lifetime of housework and childcare.

Her mother died when Dora was eleven. Her father kept the family together with the help of the daughters. When the two older daughters married in 1906, that responsibility was placed on Dora, which she fulfilled until her father's death in 1936.

She married Junias Spurgeon, November 26, 1931. In the Fall of 1936, they moved to Newberg, Oregon, where they lived until 1943, when they moved to Empire, California. Their house was moved from Empire to Ceres, where they stayed until 1963, when they moved to Cherry Valley, California. Junias died September 23, 1967. She has since resided in the Beaumont-Banning area.

She accepted Jesus Christ as her Saviour and was baptized into the German Baptist Church (Church of the Brethren), February 12, 1905. She identified with the Dunkard Brethren Church at Wenatchee, Washington in 1930 and was a member of the Winterhaven Dunkard Brethren since 1963.

She was the last of her family. She is survived by several nieces, nephews, friends and Church members.

Funeral services were held October 24, 1992 at Wiefels and Son Memorial Chapel, Banning, California by Elder Milton Cook, assisted by Elder Rudy Cover. Burial in Mountain View Cemetery, Beaumont, California.

BEHOLD THE WESTERN EVENING LIGHT

Behold the western evening light!
It melts in deep'ning gloom;
So calmly Christians sink away,
Descending to the tomb.

How beautiful on all the hills
The crimson light is shed!
'Tis like the peace the Christian gives
To mourners round his bed.

How mildly on the wand'ring cloud
The sunset beam is cast!
So sweet the mem'ry left behind,
When loved ones breathe their last.

And lo, above the dews of night,
The vesper star appears;
So faith lights up the mourner's heart,
Whose eyes are dim with tears.

Night falls, but soon the morning light
Its glories shall restore;
And thus the eyes that sleep in death
Shall wake to close no more.

NEWS ITEM**PINE RIDGE, MISSISSIPPI**

The Lord Willing, the Pine Ridge Congregation plans for a Lovefeast weekend, November 14 and 15, 1992. Services will begin at 10:45 Saturday morning, with Lovefeast in the evening, and all day services on Sunday.

We look forward to this special weekend, and warmly welcome each of you to come and share it with us.

Sister Freda Heisey, Cor.

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BIBLE MONITOR

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

PRAISE

O Thou, whose bounty fills my cup
With every blessing meet!
I give thee thanks for every drop –
The bitter and the sweet.

I praise Thee for the desert road,
And for the riverside;
For all thy goodness hath bestowed,
And all thy grace denied.

I thank Thee for both smile and frown,
And for the gain and loss;
I praise thee for the future crown
And for the present cross.

I thank Thee for the wing of love
Which stirred my worldly nest;
And for the stormy clouds which drove
Me, trembling, to thy breast.

I bless Thee for the glad increase,
And for the waning joy;
And for this strange, this settled peace,
Which nothing can destroy.

- Jane Crewdson

A BAD TRADE

Sometimes despite our best judgement and expertise, we still make bad deals. It may be a business deal, a major purchase, or some other costly financial undertaking, but either because of fraud, a changing business climate or poor management, the deal turns sour. It may mean the loss of a business, the family home, and the bank account.

Although monetary losses are heart breaking, they are not the worst thing that could happen. Many have recovered from similar financial disasters. Many have learned from their mistakes, so they could in the future build more successful financial careers.

As terrible as these losses are, there are worse trades to be made. In fact, the worst trade ever made is recorded for our admonition in Genesis 3. Adam and Eve traded their relationship with God for the forbidden fruit, deceitfully represented to them by Satan as being good. They had every thing they could have wanted either naturally or Spiritually, but they gave it up for the taste of the one fruit that had been withheld from them. If they had resisted Satan's cunning pleas, perhaps even the forbidden fruit would have been granted to them as well. But they failed to obey God's command so they lost their home in the earthly paradise and their standing with God. In their physical and Spiritual naked condition they could not even stand before God. It was only after the shedding of blood, required to clothe them properly, that they could have any relationship with God. They paid a high price because they didn't pay attention to what God had told them. They listened instead to the enemy of their souls. They made a bad trade.

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Although, Adam and Eve's bad trade has been very well publicized through the Biblical account and much preaching, people today continue to make the same bad trade. The deal today is no better than it was then and it still has the same results.

There are all manner of ways that Satan uses to get those results. Men and women, today, though highly educated and well trained in business still are seduced into making the same bad trade. The forbidden fruit today may not be a beautiful piece of fruit hanging on a literal fruit tree. They desire the beauty and wisdom that Satan promised to Eve and the trade is made. The pleasant things of this life are more desirable than righteousness. Eve made that choice and her descendents continue to follow in her footsteps.

Today that choice entails many of the things the world thinks to be natural and desirable. Despite the commands God has given throughout His Word, people still follow their natural desires. They do not accept the wisdom of God, when He tells them to leave those things alone. The allurements of the world include worldly education. While a basic education is necessary, too often advanced education creates a pride in learning attainment and a reliance upon educational principles rather than upon the simplicity of the Word of God. Today many are deceived into thinking that there are no absolute values, everything is relative. They continue to think as Satan convinced Eve to think: she would become wise by going against God's direction.

Others see no harm in what they call victimless crimes. Every sin or crime that is committed, has a victim. That victim is the one who does it, as well as God against whom all sin is ultimately directed.

There is much desire for those things that are pleasant to the eyes. Just as the forbidden fruit was pleasant to look upon and became even more tempting as Satan advertised its beauty. So today beauty, often coming out of a container, is a great temptation. This may seem harmless until a serious sin is committed because of its resulting temptation. The sexual sins that are so prevalent and often openly advertised, today, are often produced in the modesty-robbing desire for pleasant sights. Many unhealthy conditions are produced and enhanced by trying to appear beautiful or sophisticated.

In the great wisdom of the present age abortion, homosexuality, adultery and fornication are considered acceptable. Too often even amongst professing Christians these conditions are condoned and even encouraged. Surely this wisdom goes against all that God has taught His people throughout history. These sins like all others are forgivable, but they dare not be engaged in on a continuing basis. After repentance, there must be a breaking off from the old habits and lifestyles.

Knowing the consequences of Adam and Eve's sins should be enough to deter us from following in their footsteps. Are we wise enough to learn the lesson?

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"Brother, I forgive you..."

One of the saddest commentaries of the church today is the inability for many Christians to forgive other people unconditionally. It is tragic to think of the many years that are sometimes wasted in enmity between Brethren or Sisters.

We have all been in a situation of needing to ask forgiveness and we have also been called upon to grant forgiveness to someone else. To truly forgive another person we must do more than merely say some words. Forgiveness must come from the heart.

Let me ask you: Do you always immediately forgive one who offends you, whether he asks for forgiveness or not? Does your forgiving mean forgetting or is that even possible? How do you decide whether you have been offended badly enough to require forgiveness on our part? What is the mature attitude toward one who offends us but does not ask to be forgiven? Finally, what is wrong with a person who continues to feel guilty even though he has asked God and his Brother to forgive him?

First, the need for forgiveness shows a broken relationship and a violation of God's Word. When we have broken relationships with other Christians we also have a broken relationship with God. In the case of Adam and Eve, their lack of repentance created a barrier in their relationship with the Lord and they were closed out of total communion, that was uninhibited and pure. Could that happen to us?

Secondly, forgiveness became costly. It was costly for God to send His only begotten Son to this earth to provide forgiveness for sin and restoration of our relationship with Him.

In the Old Testament, there were sins that could not be forgiven. These sins carried the death penalty. If a man offered his child as a sacrifice to any god, he was to be stoned to death. The death penalty was to be inflicted for sexual impurity of various kinds and this was also true for a young person who cursed his parents.

In the New Testament, the unforgivable sin is the rejection of the Holy Spirit. It is only by the Holy Spirit that a person can know the necessity of repentance. If he rejects the Spirit of God, he can't find repentance and thus his sin cannot be forgiven.

Jesus is our perfect example for a man who was able to forgive even when He was making the ultimate sacrifice of His life. He was misunderstood by most people in spite of His perfection and, yet, He did not condemn them unless they were unwilling to come to

Him. He forgave the woman who was taken in adultery, who would have been stoned to death under the Old Testament law. He ultimately asked God to forgive those who crucified Him, in spite of the pain they inflicted on Him. Forgiveness at that level was very costly but it was a symbol of the awful price paid in order that we might be forgiven. We, too, must pay the price in forgiving but it ultimately will bring life and peace.

In order to be forgiven we must forgive. We are taught in the Lord's Prayer, "...forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." Forgiveness is always a two-way street for us. We need to have a forgiving spirit because we also have need for forgiveness from time to time. Our lack of spiritual perfection makes this a reality.

How many times are we to forgive? According to the Word, there is no limit upon our willingness to forgive. To give continued and free pardon to a person who offends us reveals the true spirit of Jesus in our life. It also shows appreciation for the times we ourselves have needed forgiveness. The Apostle Paul says, "be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another..." If we are mature in the Lord, we cannot hold grudge or refuse mercy to others.

The purpose of forgiveness is redemption. Refusal to forgive leads to eternal death. Understanding this, we see that we must be accountable for our deeds and when we wrong someone and God, we need to do everything possible to make restitution. In fact, the whole purpose of judgment and forgiveness is to restore a person to wholeness, himself, and to restore his relationship with others and with God.

Finally, we need to forgive ourselves. Guilt needs to be dealt with and we need to pray that God will remove it from us. Guilt leads to depression and other serious emotional illness. Thus, we must accept forgiveness from God and from man... then forgive ourselves. This may be difficult on our own... but with God, it is but a small miracle.

Four words for life and peace... "Brother, (Sister) I forgive you." Say it - mean it - practice it!

Brother Len Wertz

SIXTY YEARS AGO

November 15, 1932

THANKSGIVING

L. W. Beery

As this season of the year comes upon us again our minds turn to the thought of Thanksgiving. No doubt there never has been a

time since that first special day of thanksgiving that people in general experienced what is the common lot of most of us at the present time. It seems all classes of people from the greatest to the least are bearing burdens, undergoing trying circumstances and meeting difficulties never before experienced. Not only is this true in our own country, but this condition seems to be existing the world over. Many and varied are the theories and reasons put forth to explain this situation as well as the plans and suggestions as to how to proceed to relieve the pressure of these circumstances.

The kings, presidents and great statesmen have been putting forth great efforts to bring about a change for the better. With all their efforts it seems the condition has been gradually growing worse. The outlook for the future to the ordinary observer is by no means encouraging.

Without question the most complete, accurate and reliable explanation of the existing condition is found in the Holy scriptures. Then, too, we find in this book directions, which if followed by the human race would completely remove all of the burdens and distress which we are experiencing. No doubt mankind is responsible for the conditions existing.

"They have corrupted themselves on the face of the earth." "Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God; wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye." (Ezek. 18:31-32.)

It is true now though as it was in the time of Israel, "The people will not hearken." Because of this we certainly cannot expect much improvement.

With this gloomy aspect before us do we have anything for which to be thankful? One only needs to stop and consider briefly to find an answer to this question. With all the trouble, sorrow and tribulation that are upon us, there is much yet for which we should be grateful to our Maker.

In fact we believe it is conditions such as are about us that cause us to really appreciate the necessities of life, food and raiment. "And having food and raiment be therewith content." What good is it going to do us in the end anyhow, to lay up treasures on earth? Even if we succeed in holding them in times like these, sooner or later we shall have to leave them. How much better it is to hear the word of the Lord. Some of us at least can be thankful that our efforts have been according to his instruction.

It appears that this generation has had too much prosperity for its good. People in general were so well supplied with plenty of everything for years that their hearts turned to "eating, drinking and making merry." Then, too, the conveniences and improvements of

this modern age brought luxury and ease in a measure to folks not for their good, giving them ample time and opportunity to gratify the desires of the flesh. Much of this luxury and ease was the result of unsound financing schemes propagated by unscrupulous promoters, which eventually came to an end.

Now that tribulation is upon us, it causes us to stop and consider, which we believe will be for the good of many at least. "In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider: God also hath set the one over against the other, to the end that man should find nothing after Him." (Ecc. 7:14.)

It is remarkable with all the trying circumstances how our needs have been supplied. In the past few months most of us have been confronted with many problems which were hard to solve. Yet somehow the good Lord has provided ways and means to carry us through the crisis.

For this we are thankful indeed. Then, too, we are made to marvel to see many round about us who in our estimation are deserving of greater blessings than we, experiencing difficulties from which we are spared.

The past season has been such that our harvest has not been as bountiful as at times, yet most of us are supplied with sufficient for our needs. We cannot but mention too, that our health, strength, peace, happiness, right use of mind and body are all the result of the mercies of God. "For in him we live and move and have our being."

Another blessing for which we should be truly grateful is our church privileges. The ever present opportunity of engaging in religious activities that are in accordance with our convictions on the scriptures.

Although the enemy has been trying with all his powers to stamp out the truth from the face of the earth, with all of the deception and modern trickery, we rejoice that there is yet a people who, as little children accept the word of the New Testament as a message from heaven and teach it in full; and who obey from the heart that form of doctrine delivered unto them through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Then, too, we think of the many prophecies of the scriptures, the fulfillment of which we see on every hand. This points us to the near approach of our Savior's return to gather his faithful ones; for He said while here in regard to this period of time, "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." (Luke 21:28.)

This indeed should cause us to rejoice not only at this Thanksgiving season but continually even though our burdens become heavier and our tribulations increase soon our deliverance shall come.

For all of these and many other blessings, we should be deeply grateful to Him who reigns supreme.

So let us give thanks.

GIVING AN OFFERING TO GOD

(Expressing your thanks)

Exodus 25:2, "Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering.

II Corinthians 9:7, "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

God expects us to express our thanks to Him with our lips. However it is much easier to speak something than to live it out. We believe that God also desires us to express our thanks in a more tangible way. We see the offerings requested by God of the Israelites as symbolic of some of the things He desires of us as Christians.

"And this is the offering which ye shall take of them; gold, and silver, and brass." We see this as symbolic of our monetary giving. God says that we should give what we purpose in our heart. We, personally, do not believe that a Christian is required to give the tithe, which is one tenth of your income. But we believe that we should be willing to give more than this if God lays it on our heart. This is not to be given grudgingly. If we really desire the new car (or whatever) and do not gladly give it up or wait until a later time to purchase it, we may as well go ahead and buy it. We are not to give out of necessity.

Many individuals only give a tenth of their income to a church because the preacher or organization puts them on a guilt trip about robbing God. We would not undermine the danger of robbing God, but we do not believe that God puts a price tag on Heaven. No amount of money in the world can buy us a place in the Eternal City of God.

"Oil for the light, spices for anointing oil, and for sweet incense." We see this as symbolic of giving our personal lives unto the Lord. In Romans 12:1 we read, "I BESEECH you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." We do not believe that you can work on Sundays for monetary gain and then place more in the collection plate to please God. We understand that some Brethren are required to work on Sunday and we believe that this should be taken into consideration. However, if the Lord lays it on your heart to find other employment it would be wise to do so.

We believe we should abstain from things of this world and our manner of dress should show it as well as our lifestyle. However, as with the giving of money, if we do this grudgingly or of necessity (because the Church says so) we are not truly giving our expression of thanks unto God. Abstaining from alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and other harmful substances not only lowers our health risks but is one way of expressing our thanks to God.

"And they shall make an ark of shittim wood:..." We see this as symbolic of Christian service. If God, through the local church, should call you to preach do it with all your heart as a thanks offering to God. If God, through the local church, calls you to be a deacon, be the best deacon you can be. Get involved with the work of the church. This is a thank offering to God. The same can be said of a Sunday School teacher. Some have answered the call to be a missionary in a foreign land. This is one area we wish our Dunkard church would take more interest in. But since we have no personal desire to go ourself, we are not being critical.

"And thou shalt put into the ark the testimony which I shall give thee." In I Peter 3:15 we read, "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear." Not only is plain dress a means of presenting our bodies as a living sacrifice, but it is also a means of giving testimony to what we believe. While we do not wear the plain coat at all times, (perhaps we should), our plain hat has often been the means of witnessing to someone who asked what group we belonged to. We have also been asked several times why we wear a beard without a mustache. We recognize the danger of plain hats, beards and even plain coats being a source of pride. But they can also be a means of expressing our thanks to God.

"And thou shalt make a mercy seat of pure gold:..." The greatest way we can express our thanks to God is by sharing with others the salvation we have through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. If it were not for this "mercy seat" we would all suffer eternally in Hell. As we said earlier, no amount of money, and we would add good works, will give us a home in Heaven. It takes the blood of Jesus Christ to wash away our sins. Our obedience, according to Scripture, is a part of our salvation but even this is not entirely our own efforts. Let us thank God for the Holy Spirit.

Brothers and sisters let us praise God with our lips through song and spoken word to express our thanks to Him. But let us also be willing to live a life of praise and thanksgiving which is our reasonable service. "God loveth a cheerful giver."

Brother James M. Hite
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GROWING UP AND GROWING OLD

We are born in this world through our parents and by the blessings of God. We have no choice in the matter. Regardless of our size or weight when we are born, God and all humanity expects us to grow. God expects us to grow up and also, as we come to the years of accountability, to grow Spiritually.

I Peter 2:2, "As new born babes, (we should) desire the sincere milk of the word,..." That is for Spiritual growth. II Peter 3:18, "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." refers to Spiritual growth. As we grow, we are not to feed on milk forever, but are also taught in God's Word that we are to eat meat. Spiritual food is given so we might grow Spiritually. The natural food is provided that we grow physically.

Regardless of how big we may be, and whether male or female, if we have accepted Christ we are referred to in the Bible as Children – the Children of God. (Read Romans 8:16 and Galatians 3:26.)

Parents become alarmed when their little ones do not grow as the average child does. It is the same way with God. If, while we are growing up, we live a life contrary to His Will, and not growing Spiritually, it grieves Him. We read His Words in Matthew 23:37, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathered her chickens under her wings, AND YE WOULD NOT."

In the matter of growing up Spiritually, it would be a great day for God and a wonderful day for the Church if every member aimed and worked to please the Lord and wanted to grow to be more like Him. Some have good intentions but keep putting it off. Keep in mind the rest of my subject GROWING OLD. Every twenty-four hours we have one day less and we must add that day to our age. GROWING UP WHILE GROWING OLD.

It is a definite fact that God recognizes different and specific age groups in His family, indicating that in our normal life time we are constantly growing older as we grow up.

In I Timothy 5:1-2 we read, "Rebuke not an elder, (in the church, who would naturally be elderly in age), but intreat him as a father;... The elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity." These verses include various age groups, indicating that there is a physical growing up and a Spiritual growing up.

In the Church we have laymen, deacons, ministers and Elders which indicate growing up Spiritually. Seldom is a man called for either of these offices if he has not shown growth spiritually. Those baptized into Jesus Christ have a greater responsibility, taking age

into consideration. The younger are to be submissive to the older, wives are to be in subjection to their husbands. The aged men are to be sober, grave, temperate, sound in the faith, in charity, in patience. The aged women, likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness. That they teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands and to love their children. Young men likewise, exhort to be soberminded." These distinctions and differences must be kept in mind of those which came into Christ through the Holy Spirit. A very common saying perhaps based on scripture is "act your own age."

Thinking from a human standpoint, we all are born as babes. As we grow older we are known as youngsters. The next age is youth, then adolescence, then middle age and from there to old age.

While we are growing up, we are growing older. There is much difference in being childish and childlike. It is proper for one to be childlike. One must be, to be saved. Jesus said, "... Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye SHALL NOT ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN."

Little children cry and shed tears over minute things. Especially if they are tired and need a bed. It is alright for babies to cry, but adults are not to cry. (Let me make an exception to that statement.) Adults have a right to cry if there is a terminal illness or death in the family. If their buildings burn down, one would suspect that the owners had a perfect right to shed tears. That is not what the writer had in mind. The Bible states, "Jesus Wept."

The scriptures refer to the every day happenings and disappointments. Many things did not go Paul's way. Paul said, "When I became a man I put away childish things." WE SHOULD, TOO.

Growing up must be cultivated and fertilized by the Holy Ghost. Growing old is a natural aging process which man cannot stop.

In planning a certain community program, as a courtesy to the oldest man in the community, they asked for his help and advice. He fully disagreed with majority as to the plans they proposed. He would not relent in any way. That is an example of being childish.

One who is quick to agree or if insulted, quick to forgive and forget is child like.

Children often make mistakes, the same ones over and over. They can be overlooked because as they get older they will see the folly of their errors. As we grow older we are more observant and try to avoid blunders and mistakes.

Children do not express thanks or feel thankful for some favor or help as an adult does.

We have added responsibilities as we grow older. The Apostle Paul wrote, "Since I became a man I put away childish things." He GREW UP as he GREW OLD. The Bible teaches us to grow in

grace and knowledge. God's people who have grown up show it by their faithfulness.

In the matter of growing old, that is a natural process. There are problems to meet in aging. The physical body wears out and wastes away. That is the way God designed our life.

Regarding growing up, God expects that of each of us. If we do not grow up, we are like a young fruit tree just planted. We will bear no fruit. Jesus cursed the fig tree because it bore no fruit. The fig tree grew up, old enough to bear fruit but was a disappointment to Jesus because of no fruit. As we grow up and grow older Jesus expects us to bear the fruit of the Spirit. We are not to be as the empty vine. We are to bear fruit, more fruit and much fruit, else we will be cut down and burned.

GROWTH

I stood the children, straight and tall,
By last years mark upon the wall.
Another year, how soon they go
And see how fast the children grow.

And then I thought about God's Word
Grow in grace and in the Lord.
And as I knelt with God alone,
He asked me gently, "Have you grown?"

Brother Paul R. Myers
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GARAGE SALE

Philippians 1:27, "Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs; that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel."

If you are like me you enjoy stopping at Garage Sales. It is fun and practical to get a bargain, especially if it is something you need. But to those of us so inclined, the biggest disappointment is to see a Garage Sale sign and drive to the place only to find that the sale was LAST week. Nobody had the good sense and presence of mind to take the signs down! Now, it is just a little thing, but it is such an inconvenience.

We are often inconvenienced in our daily lives. We often spend time and money for things that have no value. In Isaiah 55:2 we are asked, "Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness."

Our conversation as Christians, and this means our daily life, not just our talk, must be centered around Christ. If we have a sign out advertising something, we had better be able to deliver. If we are claiming an experience with the Lord, we had better be able to present Him to others. If we, both as individuals and as a church represent Jesus Christ, we had better represent Him in all things.

Many of our Brethren are in business for themselves. They advertise their services to the world. How long would they stay in business if they were not able to fulfill their promises? Jesus came to fulfill a law that men did not have the power to keep. Jews still try to keep the law, and cannot, but they continue to put on a front before the world. The purpose of the law was to show man the way to God. It was not in itself the way to God. Christ fulfilled the law by being the perfect sacrifice for sin.

Unsaved people often tell me the reason why they are not Christians is that they have known "Christians" and they have been disappointed by them. They did not deliver the goods. The sign was up, but there was no merchandise. People take pleasure in the knowledge that Christians are weak and prone to sin. They delight in knowing that we are no different, after all, than they are. But we can show them that we ARE different: that Christ dwells in us of a truth. We can be honest in all our dealings and display a true compassion for their souls.

Brother L. H. Miller
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OUR SATURDAY NIGHT

J. H. Moore

ON THE RENTED FARM

I once knew an old farmer who for several years lived on a rented farm. He had a large family, mostly girls. All were quite industrious, and in moral tone they were the cream of the neighborhood. The father was intelligent and the children bright. They stood second to none of the children in the country school which they attended. The mother's education had been neglected, but she had good sense, a high idea of life and possessed a noble heart.

The house in which these people lived was quite modest, but it was kept scrupulously clean, and everything around somehow seemed to be always in order. The father came to the neighborhood an entire stranger, and by his knack for ordinary business succeeded in renting the best little farm in the community. The improvements were scant, but the soil was the best. As soon as he got on the farm everything seemed to take on a new and improved appearance. The loose fence boards were nailed up, the gates put in order, the yard fence reconstructed, the loose boards on the house and barn received attention, and a little touch was given to the fence here and there all around the farm. The scattered boards, rails, posts, and so forth, soon found their way into neat piles. The whole place put on an air of cheerfulness.

As soon as spring opened, the farmer was in his fields with plow, harrow and planter. He lost not a day, and was the first man in the neighborhood to get his seed in the ground. No farmer in that part of the country cultivated his crops better, nor did any one get better results. This greatly pleased the landlord, and he early arranged for the farmer to remain on his place as long as he wanted to rent.

The family was poor. The neighbors did not know how poor they were. For the first year they found it difficult to procure the food, clothing and other supplies actually needed. But they did not complain. All the members of the family carried a cheerful face, and seemed at their best when in the presence of others. The family had seen better days. A few years before they were in excellent circumstances, but a security debt swept away every particle of their fine estate. It was a sad hour, and cast over their lives a shadow that saddened the hearts of the father and mother many a year. With bleeding hearts and scant supplies they left their once charming home, never to return. They sought to bury their sorrow and retrieve their losses in a new and strange land. This is why we find them on the dilapidated, rented farm. The family kept their troubles to themselves, and at the same time put forth every effort to regain in a measure what had been torn from them.

For several years the man remained on the same rented farm, and soon became known as the most industrious, wide-awake and best farmer in the community. Each year he saved money, and put it in the bank, or out on interest. In time he had enough to buy a farm of his own and pay cash for it. A few years later he had one of the best improved farms in the country, and had a reputation for honesty, industry and high moral worth second to no man in the country.

He had made life a success, and knew it, but did not boast. By attending strictly to his own business, and attending to it well, he had succeeded, not only in gaining wealth, but in making a

reputation that was worth more, in the sight of both God and man, than money. He had raised a family that was an honor to the neighborhood.

During all this time he and his wife remained faithful members of the Brethren Church, though not for years did a member live near them. And when the Brethren, in the course of time, commenced preaching in that locality, and succeeded in building up a congregation, the farmer and his wife were always looked up to as the model members of the church. In all their experiences, whether in poverty or in wealth, they had kept their lamp burning, and though the brother has long since gone to the better land beyond the stars, it will be many a year before his name will cease to be mentioned as that of a model man, a model farmer, a model father and a model Christian. What he did, others may do. He once lost all of his property but did not lose his religion. When his finances went to the bottom he still kept his light shining. For years he lived many miles from any of the members, yet he remained loyal to the church and her principles. He was a man of few words, and was never known to make a speech in public, still by his life he preached louder than any Brethren preacher who ever lived in his community. Religiously speaking he was a living epistle, known and read by all those who knew him. Whether in the pursuit of wealth or happiness he never found religion a hindrance.

NEWS ITEMS

MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new telephone area code for Elder Milton Cook is 909. His telephone number after November 14, 1992 will be 909-845-6231.

THANK YOU

I wish to express my thanks for all the beautiful cards, flowers, telephone calls and gifts for my birthday. Words cannot express my appreciation for all the kindness shown by everyone. May God bless each and everyone.

In Christian love,
Sister Clara Gunderman

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR DECEMBER 1992

December 6 - Hezekiah Healed - II Kings 20:1-21.

1. What did Hezekiah do that touched God? verse 1-8.
2. What did Hezekiah do that displeased God? verse 14-19.

December 13 - Manasseh and Amon - II Kings 21:1-26.

1. How would you summarize the reign of Manasseh?
2. What were the results of Manasseh's sin?

December 20 - The Prophecy of Elisha Fulfilled - II Kings 13:1-25.

1. Why was Christ's birth so special?
2. Do you have room in your life for Jesus?

December 27 - Josiah, the Good King of Judah - II Kings 22:1-20.
(II Kings chapters 23, 24, 25)

1. How did Josiah respond when they found "The Book of the Law"?
2. What was the lasting result of Israel's sin? chapters 23-25.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR DECEMBER 1992

December 6 - Stephen's witness - Acts 6.

1. How would you summarize Stephen's witness?
2. How would you summarize your witness?

December 13 - Conversion of Saul - Acts 9:1-20.

1. How was Saul hindering the work of Christ?
2. How did his life change at conversion?

December 20 - BIRTH OF CHRIST - Isa. 9:6-7, Mi. 5:1-4,
Matt. 1:18-25, Isa. 7:13-14.

1. How have you responded to God's unspeakable gift?
2. Have you truly given Jesus your life?

December 27 - Diligence - II Peter 1:3-15.

1. How does diligence apply to the Christian life?
2. What is the challenge of Col. 3:23?

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BIBLE MONITOR

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

THE PILLAR OF THE CLOUD

Lead, Kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom,
Lead Thou me on!
The night is dark, and I am far from home –
Lead Thou me on!
Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see
The distant scene, – one step enough for me.

I was not ever thus, nor pray'd that Thou
Shouldst lead me on.
I lov'd to choose and see my path; but now
Lead Thou me on!
I lov'd the garish day, and, spite of fears,
Pride rul'd my will: remember not past years.

So long Thy power hath bless'd me, sure it still
Will lead me on,
O'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till
The night is gone;
And with the morn those angel faces smile
Which I have lov'd long since, and lost awhile.

- John Henry Newman

THE SPIRIT OF MAN AND THE SPIRIT OF GOD

When God created Adam and Eve, they were perfect, physically and Spiritually. Man was made in the image of God and He had intended that His Spirit would dwell within that body. Adam and Eve forsook God's instruction and listened instead to the wily solicitations of the serpent. Their ill-advised action brought a separation that has plagued their descendants ever since. Their disobedience caused God's sentence to pass upon them, so the Spirit of God was no longer their possession. They were cut off from Paradise. Their physical bodies would no longer know eternal life.

Their physical bodies began the gradual decline that has led to so many artificial limbs and organs. As the body has decayed, generation after generation, it has needed more and more help from medical science.

The Spiritual life has also deteriorated since the failure in the Garden of Eden. Without God's gift of eternal life through the Gift of His Son, there would be no hope for any life, physical or Spiritual, beyond the short span of years granted to mankind upon this Earth. God has opened the way of salvation so men can please Him here and in Heaven later.

One of the most evident examples of the difference between the body and spirit is seen when a body is on view after death. It is very evident that the person who once resided in that body is no longer there. The spirit has taken its flight. No matter how sick or low a person may have been, life was still there. A sick body and a weary mind still show the effects of the spirit. When the spirit leaves, so does all human understanding and activity. The body

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becomes a lump of empty clay. No matter how skillful the mortician may be at his art, the body will be very different from what it was before death.

God gives each person born into this world the spirit of man, which is the physical life. By this spirit, people understand the physical, worldly things of this life. As a child grows up, his instincts lead him into knowledge of the physical desires and activities of the world. An understanding of the world is gained that is not according to righteousness but according to the world's understanding. This is the working of the natural spirit of man. It provides physical life and knowledge, but does not give access to God, though He originally gave that spirit.

The spirit of the natural man is not enough to please God. For that spirit will behave in a way that is according to human understanding, that is acquired through worldly associations. To please God, there must be an understanding that is not according to this natural understanding, but an understanding controlled by the Holy Spirit of God. Every person born into this world has the spirit of the natural man, but only those who comply with God's plan of salvation will have the Spirit of God. With the Spirit of God in control a person can make the right choices in his living. The physical man will only do those things that are best for him by his own understanding. He will reject the direction of God, although God's desire for him would ultimately be in his best interest. God's love for the human family, which He has created, makes Him deeply concerned about their well-being, Spiritually and physically. He wants what is best for them, but they, not having His Spirit reject what is for their own benefit.

The things learned through the teachings of the spirit of man will never lead a person to Heaven. That destination can only be gained through the Spirit of God. Heavenly and Spiritual things cannot be understood by the natural mind. The two understandings are not compatible, for the one deals with earthly, temporal knowledge; the other deals with heavenly, eternal knowledge. Spiritual desires cannot be comprehended by the natural mind. The natural mind can only understand what is rational and visible. The Spiritual mind understands that which cannot be seen with the physical eye and what is established by faith. The things that the Spirit would teach seem like foolishness to the natural man. But those things are just as real as the earth itself to those who have such a mind. To have the mind controlled by God rather than by the world and Satan gives it a different perspective.

Is your mind controlled by God or by Satan, from whence does your understanding come? Let God's Spirit rule in your mind, so He can rule in your body. To yield to His control will ultimately give you a greater gift than the world or Satan can ever give you.

Give yourself to Jesus Christ; become a member of the Family of God; allow His Spirit to lead you throughout life.

PLENTEOUS REDEMPTION IN THE LORD

Psalm 130

"Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord." In our present age it seems as if there are very few who really get serious with the Lord. It is a time when popular preachers are denying the reality of a sinful nature. A time when individuals claim to get saved while under the influence of satanic rock music, mis-labeled "christian." A time when the television and "christian" movies have replaced soul searching messages to a large degree.

"Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications." While we believe that baptism is the final work of salvation, we fear that too many have bypassed Romans 10:13, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." While tears are not necessary to obtain salvation, they do show repentance and a sign that the individual recognizes their lost estate.

"If thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?" The Psalmist is not suggesting that God does not judge sin. He is saying the very opposite. No matter how moral we may think we are we are still sinners in the eyes of God if we have not been covered by the shed blood of Jesus Christ. The last few months have been filled with the issue of morals verses the economy. While we are not overjoyed to see a President elected who took a stand in favor of abortion and gay rights we are even more concerned that many within the earthly church are willing to join hands with false teachers and cults to combat these evils. There is also the danger of morals replacing a true salvation experience.

"But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared." We praise God that there is forgiveness in the Lord Jesus Christ. But this forgiveness does not allow us to continue in willful sin, as many today teach. We must still have the reverential fear of the Lord in our heart, knowing that our forgiveness is conditional. In Hebrews 10:26-27 we are warned, "For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries." To say this refers to someone who has heard the truth and ignores it is redundant.

"I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope." While we do not believe it is necessary to pray for hours or even days to receive salvation, we are more than a little concerned

with the modern "Just believe" or "Just repeat this prayer after me" type of salvation presentation. Salvation is intrinsically tied into the Holy Word of God, and we have more to say on this, but we feel it is very dangerous to read a few Scriptures, or have an individual read them, ask them if they believe what was read and, if the answer is affirmative, pronounce them saved. As we shared earlier, it is also dangerous to let an individual believe that baptism, in itself, is salvation. First it is necessary that the Holy Spirit brings conviction upon the heart. We do not believe we can get saved anytime we so desire. Then we believe an individual should allow God time to reveal the things in their life that need to be changed. This may only take a few minutes or it could take a few days. We need not worry that we will miss the rapture of the Church by delaying our decision. God will not allow such a thing to happen. In fact, II Peter 3:9 suggests that Christ may delay His coming because God is dealing with individuals who have not made the final decision.

We now want to comment on the importance of the Word of God in our salvation experience. Our hope for final salvation is found in the Word of God and without it we will be lost. God will not judge us by what a preacher says is necessary for salvation. He will not judge us by the standards of a church organization. He certainly will not judge us by our own moral and personal set of standards. He WILL judge us out of His Holy Word!

"My soul waiteth for the LORD more than they that watch for the morning: I say, more than they that watch for the morning." There are those who fear the darkness of night. There are others who find that sleep evades them. These anxiously wait for the morning. There are also those who live in the symbolical night of sickness and pain. They await the morning of healing. But more than these we should await our final salvation in the return of our Lord.

"Let Israel hope in the LORD: for with the LORD there is mercy, and with him is plenteous redemption." Thank God for His mercy. Not one of us deserves salvation. And praise God for His plenteous redemption. As the song writer said, "There is room at the cross for you." God never taught in His Word that only a few can be saved. While we do not completely understand the way of God in nations where the truth of Jesus Christ has not yet been heard, we believe everyone who ever came to the age of accountability was given the opportunity to be saved. Those who died as "innocent" children were assured of salvation. This is a part of God's mercy.

"And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities." There is no sin too great for God to forgive. There is no individual on earth who is so great a sinner that they cannot be forgiven, unless they have

blasphemed against the Holy Spirit. If you have, you will not feel a need for a Savior. Also God redeems from all iniquities. He does not save us IN our sins but FROM our sin.

Brother James M. Hite

816 E. Birch St.

Palmyra, PA 17078

THE MIRACLES OF CHRIST AS RECORDED IN GOD'S WORD

Introduction

Webster's Dictionary says a miracle is, "An event or action that apparently contradicts scientific laws." It also states that a miracle is a remarkable thing.

My object in this series of articles is to show by the Word of God, the power Jesus had given Him by our Heavenly Father. Let me here state that Jesus succeeded every time, HE KNEW NO FAILURES. Many miracles were performed for the strict benefit of mankind. Jesus did not adhere to one formula only. He used various ways to bring miracles about. Jesus stated in Matthew 28:18, "... All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." He demonstrated His power many, many times, each without failure.

There are innumerable miracles in the Old Testament. The Flood, Conception of Isaac, Moses' rod turning into a serpent, Passage through the Red Sea, Lot's wife turning to salt, Plague of Israel, and many, many more. I will not dwell on them but on the New Testament Miracles accomplished by Christ. I may not use them all. They will not be in chronological order, as listed in the New Testament.

1. WATER MADE INTO WINE

John 2:1-4

While this miracle is listed as Miracle number 1, it is also the first miracle Jesus performed. It is recorded in John 2:1-4. "And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage. And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come."

Jesus did not hesitate. There were six stone waterpots, which held two or three firkins of water apiece. Jesus told them to fill the waterpots, which they did to the brim with water.

When the ruler of the feast tasted of the water made into wine, and knew not what it was (the servants knew) the governor of the feast said unto the bridegroom, verse 10, "... Every man at the

beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now."

This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee.

IT WAS RECOGNIZED AS THE BEST. What Jesus provides for us IS ALWAYS THE BEST.

Brother Paul R. Myers
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Canton, Ohio 44718

SIXTY YEARS AGO

December 1, 1932

THE DRAWING POWER OF THE CHURCH

Chester Hiatt

Dear brethren and sisters it is with a heart full of love and compassion, that we undertake to write this article. I love the good old Dunkard church, because of what she stands for, and God forbid that the time shall ever come that she will fail to proclaim the whole gospel to a sin dying world.

Now I believe, my dear reader, that you will agree with me that it is the duty of every member of the church to help remove all hindering causes whatever and wherever they may be. Jesus says, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." John 12:32. Now Jesus established his church here upon the earth, and laid out the wonderful plan of salvation whereby, if we accept these terms as laid down in New Testament scriptures we can become members of His church. Now is it our duty as members of this sacred institution to carry on the work and so live that the spirit of Jesus can draw others into the church through our lives.

Now my dear brother and sister, are you satisfied with the drawing power of our beloved church? I believe that we will all agree that we are not, and God forbid that the time will ever come that we will become satisfied with our weak efforts, but that we might continue to struggle onward and upward until our Savior calls us home. I know there are different causes in our various churches over the brotherhood that are hindering our drawing power. I believe that you will agree with me that one of the greatest (if not the greatest) hindrances is the fact that you and I are not holding up the cross of Jesus Christ before the world, we are not only letting it fall to the ground, but we are trampling it under our feet.

I am going to talk plain and I hope you will forbear with me in what I have to say. One thing sure we can never overcome these obstacles unless we are willing to face them and ask ourselves the

question, "Lord is it I?" Let us notice our blessed Savior as He stood before His false accusers, He uttered not a word. Can we show this kind of a spirit? Not only was He scourged, but they spit on Him, placed a crown of thorns on His head and smote Him with a reed. Now I know some of us think we have been wonderfully mistreated, but how do we compare to our blessed Savior? Then they nailed Him to the cruel cross to die, that you and I might have eternal life and through it all He cried, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do."

Oh my brother and sister, if we could only show this kind of a spirit what a wonderful drawing power we could have in our dear church. The world would soon see that there is a good reality in the religion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. But alas, how sad it is when we cannot seem to get along even with our brethren and sisters, oh the great heart of Jesus is pained. Let us remember Jesus one time said, "Oh Jerusalem, Jerusalem, how oft I would have gathered you together as a hen doth gather her brood, but ye would not." The same would apply to us today.

The devil is awfully well pleased when he sees us striving among ourselves. Ask yourself whom are you pleasing, Jesus or the Devil?

Sometimes we put a good deal of stress on how we dress, and forget what the Apostle Paul says, "Now if any man have not the spirit of Christ he is none of His." Romans 8:9.

Now in conclusion I would like to say nothing does me more good than to see every member of our church carry out the manner of dress as laid down in our polity by which we are governed, but it is just as necessary that each of our lives show forth the fruits of the spirit, love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance, if we expect to be a drawing power for the church.

We sing that good old song, "The Way Of The Cross Leads Home," but are we willing to suffer the way of the cross? If we suffer we shall also reign with Him (II Timothy 2:12). May God help each of us as we journey toward our heavenly home to be able to live a more consistent life is my prayer.

THOUGHTS ON THE ELECTION

Daniel 4:17, "This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men."

As I write this, it is the day after the national election, early in the morning. Surely among many that call themselves Christians there

is much disappointment to be found today. Seemingly the forces of evil have won a victory over the forces of good. The important, yet often difficult, thing to remember is that as Christians this world is not our permanent dwelling place. We have no continuing city. We are not citizens of this world. God will put those rulers in place that He will, popular vote notwithstanding. He lifts up whom He will and casts down whom He will. There will be times when the saints of God will suffer persecution. It has been true in many other countries, and it will eventually happen here.

We must pray for our leaders. When Daniel came into the presence of the evil king, he said, "O King, live forever!" Whether we agree with them or not, we owe them our prayers and respect.

We, as Christians, should not vote or get involved in politics. Our role in this life is to preach the Gospel. When money is expected of us, we should pay our taxes. Jesus did. Jesus and the disciples did not involve themselves in the political process and neither should we. If all Christians spread the Gospel, the world would be influenced more so than by those who believe they should vote and be "good citizens."

Why has the government gone to the liberals? Maybe the Church did not pray enough for the leaders of our land. Maybe we are more interested in the things of this world than we are willing to admit. We studied First and Second Kings. Have we learned from the scriptures? Maybe God thinks it is time for the Church to endure persecution. Will we suffer it well and come forth as gold?

Brother Lynn H. Miller

GOD SAVE THE KING !

This statement, (not so often used in our day) was a common phrase in its time and I'd like us to consider its use and meaning.

The word, "save" has various usages that are closely related: 1. To rescue or preserve from harm, danger, and so forth; make or keep safe. 2. To keep in health and well being as in "God save the King" (New World Dictionary). It would seem that by this statement one was invoking the Sovereign God, Jehovah, to protect an earthly ruler. Could there be yet a deeper meaning? Some other statements used to bless authorities lead me to think so. Statements like "Long live the King" and if you go back to the Mede and Persian Empires the greeting "O King live forever" it would seem there was a concern for the eternal good.

These statements as well as the most important definition for the word, "save" speak of that deeper meaning. The call for God to save, by this definition, is something only God can do: to deliver from sin and its punishment. God tells us through His Word that all have sinned and need to be saved.

The true power of God, after He has pardoned a sinner (all of us until we come to Jesus) always changes that sinner from the inside out. This is part of being saved. God writes His ways on the heart of those who turn from wickedness and believe the Gospel. He also sends the Holy Spirit into the very being of those who are truly saved, causing them to have the desire to do His will. The New Testament is full of ways we can know that we are truly saved. One is the kind of "fruit" we produce in our lives; "He that saith, I know Him (Jesus Christ), and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." 1 John 2:4. We are not to judge the inward motives of the heart, for only God knows them, but we are supposed to discern between good and evil words and actions of others.

This leads me to a major concern. 1 Timothy 2 calls all Christians to pray for our leaders and this is my desire, but how shall I pray and for what? I fear by some of the statements made by our President-elect in support of abortion, sodomy, and other "rights", that he needs to get right with God. It hardly seems possible that someone could be led by God's HOLY SPIRIT and support these things. God says in His Word that those, who practice sodomy, the murder of infants, adultery, theft and all other sins, have an equal standing before God. They must repent and forsake their sin and look to Jesus for the forgiveness of sin or perish on judgement day. God isn't impressed by what denominational title we call ourselves, but by whether we are living and standing for Him.

Jesus said, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." Matthew 7:21.

If we care for this country, our new President, and his soul, may our prayer be "God save the President."

Brother C. Richard Hess, Jr.
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Annville, PA 17003

GOD'S ROLE FOR FATHERS

"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it." Ephesians 5:25.

Agape love means love which is measured by sacrifice. Agape love is overwhelmingly used in the New Testament. This kind of love is measured not by what one feels nor even by what one directly does. Rather, it is measured by the sacrifice of one's self.

At first glance one sees the husband and father set as authority over his wife and children; which seems like a fine perch for the man. But one must look deeper, for the divine authority vested in a

husband and father is modeled upon Christ. Only when Calvary was behind Him did He come to His disciples and say, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." The authority of Christ or of the husband and father is not a human fleshy authority. It is a divine and spiritual authority which is rooted in the sacrifice of one's self.

The burden of caring for the support of the family lies upon the man. The woman is glad to draw this burden to herself, for her character always tends toward watchfulness in material things. The burden is too heavy for her. Stronger shoulders are given to the man. He has a greater natural strength of mind to enable him to stand up under the pressure of these cares.

The burden of the children and the management of the household is a task laid upon the wife, and it is task enough. Let the husband fulfill his responsibility of providing for the family, so that the wife will not take upon herself more than is allotted to her.

Let the husband see that he provides adequately for his family. If he enters into a calling for which he is fit and earns a modest income, it is no disgrace in the eyes of God to live simply, within that income. But it is a disgrace to let the lust for material things set aside the order which God has established for the well-being of the family. As the Church must look to Christ alone for all her good and welfare, so must the wife and children receive their material needs through the faithful service of the husband.

A husband and father who takes seriously his role in God's order for the family must therefore bring to reality the words of Jesus, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." With this in mind husbands need to deny themselves and sacrifice their lives for their wives as well as for the fellowship of the Cross.

The highest duty of the Christian husband is to care for the sanctification of his wife. His model is Christ, who has sacrificed Himself for His Church, in order to sanctify it. He ought not only to lead her in a Christian life and walk, he ought also to do everything in his power to make the full blessing of God accessible to her in the Church. At home, by prayer and word, he must sustain her in spirit, strengthen her feeling for high and heavenly things, and forward her in Christian knowledge.

As the head of a congregation has to give an account for the condition of all those under his charge, so the head of a family has to give an account for the state of his household.

Husband, love your wife – go the way of the cross before her. The gateway to all spiritual life and blessing is repentance. As the spiritual head of the family, the husband and father must be the FIRST to repent.

"But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God." 1 Corinthians 11:3. If the wife is unsubmitive to her husband, it may well be that the man is secretly or openly rebellious against Christ. Only those who live under authority are fit to wield authority. A man with a rebellious household must look first to his own relationship with HIS AUTHORITY – Christ. This may be a humbling experience, but even so, out of it can come a broken and contrite spirit, repentance, a new gentleness and meekness toward his family and, amazingly, a new measure of authority. This authority he no longer has to strive for, but which is yielded gladly, for the husband has "died to self" making it possible for God to establish His authority within the family unit.

A housewife once shared a bit of wisdom concerning a husband's attitude toward his wife: There is a special "vitamin" that a wife needs for her wellbeing. Even in Christian homes this is lacking! A man works and earns money. His salary check and his employer's commendation are a recognition of his worth. A housewife has no such criterion. Yet she, too, needs appreciation and motivation. Many husbands do not realize the depth of this need.

In Proverbs 31 a good wife is described as "far precious than jewels. Her husband . . . praises her."

Husband, consider your wife a treasure given to you by a bountiful God. Love her. Honor her. Recognize her talents. Appreciate her efforts. Be considerate of her feelings. With tenderness and sincerity express your love for her in some way every single day. This daily "vitamin" will make married life far more rewarding for your wife AND for you.

Husbands love your wife! Give up your pride. Follow your Lord Jesus to the Cross, and the Transforming love of Calvary shall flower in your home!

Wishing you God's Blessings as you continually strive to be a father and husband.

A TRIBUTE TO FATHER

A father is a guiding light
Sent to us from above,
He listens to our sorrows
And soothes them with his love.

A father is a teacher
Whose place no one could take,
For he's the source from which
We learn to think and navigate.

A father is a gift from God
From which we learn to be,
Patient, strong and loving;
Filled with integrity.

- Selected

Sister Shirley Frick

OUR SATURDAY NIGHT

Home, Sweet Home

J. H. Moore

Some years ago an artist, who was traveling in the South, sent me a picture of a most dilapidated negro cabin. It was built of unhewn pine logs, and covered with pine clapboards. The battered door opened outward and swung on primitive wooden hinges. Not a window pierced the walls of this Georgia cabin, and its only noticeable feature was a large chimney, built of sticks and clay, and constructed on the outside of the building. Along the front was a porch of the most primitive style, with puncheon floor, and the whole thing seemed ready to collapse. Not an object was to be seen, aside from the old building, apparently deserted and forsaken. There was no signs of life; not even the familiar smoke coming from the old chimney. One would have to travel a long distance to find more desolate-appearing premises, and yet, beneath the roughly-sketched picture, the artist had written the title of John Howard Payne's immortal poem, "Home, Sweet Home."

At first thought it was the meeting of the sublime and the ridiculous on a common level. But it led me to thinking. Probably not two miles away stood the marble mansion of the man who could count his money by the million. His wife and children imported their fine clothing from Paris, and wore diamonds that would lighten up the face of any negro in the South. They rode in a fine carriage, had a score of servants to wait on them, walked on floors covered with rugs of Damascus, ate the richest of foods, entertained the most distinguished people in the land, slept upon downy beds and never knew want.

A glance at this mansion from without was enough to give rise to the sins of covetousness. The appearance of the building was artistic in every way. An ornamental fence, a charming lawn, beautiful shade trees, fragrant flowers, and the sparkling fountains, made a picture that was the envy of every lover of the beautiful. To write beneath such a picture "Home, Sweet Home" would have seemed most fitting indeed.

How can we compare the dilapidated negro cabin with the home of the elite? Around one poverty seems to reign, while the other

abounds in wealth. But "sweet home" is not always found within the gilded walls. Delightful lawns, beautiful shade trees, lovely flowers and sparkling fountains do not always indicate happy hearts. Much of the seeming happiness of the rich and even the gifted, may be only outward. In this world there is an amazing amount of deceit with a gilded surface.

In an attempt to combine the ridiculous with the sublime may not our artist have unwittingly sketched much of the real in life? There is probably more genuine happiness in the humble homes of our land than may be found within the walls of the costly mansions and palaces. Were an angel from beyond the stars to visit all the homes in this fair America and write "Sweet Home" in letters of gold upon the doors behind which peace reigns supreme, we should probably behold the result with profound amazement. The more humble would be delighted with the title that came to them unsought, while thousands of the rich and influential would be made thrice miserable because the angel had refused to adorn their costly doors with the shining title. But, after all, how true the lines of Payne:

'Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam,
Be it ever so humble there's no place like home!
A charm from the skies seems to hallow us there,
Which, seek through the world, is ne'er met with elsewhere.
Home! home! sweet, sweet home!
There's no place like home!

An exile from home, splendor dazzles in vain;
Oh, give me my lowly thatched cottage again!
The birds singing gaily that come at my call –
Give me them – and the peace of mind dearer than all!
Home! home! sweet, sweet home!
There's no place like home!

OBITUARY

BERTHA JARBOE

Sis. Bertha Elizabeth Jarboe was born on October 31, 1903, at Quinter, Kansas, to John and Katherine (Finkenbinder) Roesch. She departed this life in Kansas City, Missouri, on September 15, 1992, after a short illness.

When Bertha was a young child, her family moved to Idaho for a brief period, but moved back to Scott County, Kansas. In 1919 she

moved with her family to McClave, Colorado. She attended high school in Las Animas.

She was married to Henry Isaac Jarboe on May 20, 1923, at Jarosa, Colorado. To this union, four children were born: Thelma Mae, Robert, Mildred and Twila. They lived in Tuka, Kansas a number of years, and in the McClave, Colorado area where they became two of the early members of the Cloverleaf Dunkard Brethren Church. They moved to Grandview, Missouri in 1950.

She was preceded in death by her husband Isaac, daughter Thelma, son Robert, her parents John and Katherine Roesch, brothers, Marion, Melvin and Everett, and sisters Erma Moss and infant twins Lela and Lila, two grandchildren Gaylene and Stephen Jarboe, and one great-granddaughter Lindsey Rife.

She is survived by a daughter Mildred and husband Esley Schmidt of Waverly, Kansas, a daughter Twila and husband Carl Rife of Omaha, Nebraska, thirteen grandchildren, twenty-three great-grandchildren, a number of nieces and nephews and many friends.

Before her son Robert's death in 1985, as his health deteriorated, she was his constant caregiver.

After a short illness in July 1989, she went to live in a nursing home in Grandview, Missouri. Until the first part of July this year, Bertha spent her days crocheting, playing games and encouraging new residents to join in the activities. She also recently taught two young girls who frequently visited the nursing home how to crochet.

Bertha's life revolved around her church and family. She especially loved being with her grandchildren. Over the years she crocheted each of her grandchildren many items, and during the past year she crocheted baby shawls for two of her great-grandchildren, and we know each one was stitched with love.

Bertha Elizabeth Jarboe will be greatly missed by all.

Funeral services were held at the McClave Dunkard Brethren Church, September 19, 1992. Bro. Warren Smith officiated, with burial in the McClave Community Cemetery.

A man who had charge of a swing-bridge opened it just to oblige a friend, who said there was plenty of time for his boat to go through before the train of cars came along. But the moment after the express came thundering on, and dashed into the dark waters below. The bridgekeeper, whose neglect had caused the disaster, lost his reason, and his life since has been spent in a madhouse. The first and only words he uttered when the train leaped into the open chasm were, "If I only had;" and he has gone on constantly repeating the vain regret. Ah! that will be the cry of the lost in another world, — "If I only had."

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXX

DECEMBER 15, 1992

NO. 24

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

HIS NAME AT THE TOP

I had the nicest Christmas list,
The longest one in town
Till Daddy looked at it and said,
"You'll have to cut it down."
I knew what he said was true
beyond the faintest doubt,
But was amazed to hear him say,
"You've left your best Friend out."
And so I scanned my list again,
and said, "Oh, that's not true!"
But Daddy said, "His name's not there,
That Friend who died for you."
And then I clearly understood
'Twas Jesus that he meant;
For him who should come first of all
I hadn't planned a cent!
I'd made a Christmas birthday list,
And left the Savior out!
But, oh, it didn't take me long
To change the list about
And tho' I've had to drop some names
Of folks I like a lot
My Lord must have the most - because
His Name Is At The Top!

-Author unknown
Selected by Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein

CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a very special time of the year for all. Some will use it as a time of feasting and partying. Some will be more concerned about gift giving and receiving. Some will give their attention to decorations, tinsel, trimming trees and programs. There will still be a few who will put Christ at the top of their concerns and wishes at this season. Although all the activities of the season do ultimately go back to the stable in Bethlehem, unfortunately for too many the connection has become very brittle. As we think of the word, "Christmas", perhaps we can think of some of the elements that are a part of this season.

"C" is for the Christ of Christmas. He certainly should be the center of the holiday. He was "The Anointed" sent to Earth by His heavenly Father to become the sacrifice for all men's sins. He came as a babe laid in a lowly manger that He might be identified with the common folk rather than with kings and rulers. The religious and political rulers of His day would condemn Him, but the common people would hear Him and follow Him.

"H" is for Home and Family. Jesus has made our homes and families very important to us. Being a part of the Family of God gives us an insight into the value of family. We want to spend our time with those closest to us. We are willing to serve and sacrifice for our families. We especially want to influence our families to give their hearts and lives to God. Families are a foretaste of Heaven, if they are united in Christian love as well as physical love.

"R" is for the Resurrection. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we have the hope of a life that can be useful and worthwhile. He died for our sins before He arose for our

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justification. Because He came forth from that grave, we have the hope of eternal life. If He had not arisen, we could not have depended upon Him as our sin-bearing saviour. His death and resurrection were dependent upon His coming as the Virgin-born Babe of Bethlehem.

"I" is for Invitation. The Christmas season is not only an invitation to a meal or to join the activities of others. There is an implied invitation to become a follower of this One who came to Earth to seek and to save the lost. When anyone recognizes that he is lost, he is invited to accept God's offered terms of salvation. That invitation is answered by a return invitation for Jesus to come into his heart.

"S" is for Shopping. This is one of the major activities of this season. It is not always a pleasant activity, because of the commercial emphasis so largely identified with Christmas. Often the "Christmas spirit" is strained, while shoppers battle in crowded stores. This shopping could be reduced, if the right emphasis were placed upon the season's gift giving. Too often gift giving involves status and ego more than love or fellowship. These gifts become more important than God's Gift to men.

"T" is for Testimony. We are to share with others what a great price has been paid for our soul's salvation. We are to speak of God sending His Son as His Gift to the whole world. Without His love, mercy and grace there would only have been judgment. This should be shared with a world of people, who need to realize their need for this God-given Gift.

"M" is for Meal. Too often the meal we think of at Christmas time is the feast that we sit down to with our families. As followers of Jesus, we should be concerned with the meals of those who do not have family or financial resources. We might also think of the Last Supper. This not only is the basis of the Lovefeast service, but also looks forward to the Marriage Feast of the Lamb in Heaven, when we will be served with the entire family of God.

"A" is for Activity. There certainly is a lot of activity at Christmas time. How much of that activity is productive and necessary is something that each must stop and ask himself. Much of the activity causes upset nerves and shattered emotions. Partying and feasting may lead to dangerous health problems. There is often a financial drain which leads to further emotional upsets a few weeks later.

"S" is for the Saviour. He should be the center of this time. He should be the beginning, the middle and the end of Christmas. Beyond Christmas, He should be the everything of our daily lives. Without the virgin born Babe of Bethlehem there would have been no cross of Good Friday or the empty tomb of Easter. Without the cross and the resurrection there would have been no salvation for you or me or anyone else.

You may think of other words that would be identified with the word, "Christmas". Whatever words you would use, do not forget to make Jesus the center of your Christmas and your life.

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"Heaven Came Down"

The birth of Jesus constitutes one of the critical links in the unbreakable theological chain that extends from eternity to eternity. He who eternally existed as God became incarnate through a miraculous conception by the Holy Spirit and was born of a virgin. As a unique God-Man, He lived, taught, and performed miraculous works which was to culminate in the greatest work of all, His substitutionary death on the cross. His resurrection and ascension are divine seals of approval on the accomplished objective of His first coming...and they launched Him into His present ministry as our High Priest for those who believe in Him. This ministry will continue until the events ordained for His second coming, which include His return for the church, His acting as Judge, His thousand year earthly reign as King and ultimately His consummation of all things for eternity.

Without Christmas we never would have had the opportunity to experience the benefits and the blessings of Easter. But the entire plan was assured because the primary purpose of Christ's birth was His death on our behalf. In Bethlehem the cross was indeed casting its shadow over the manger.

So...Jesus was born...to be Savior of the world and an abundant life would be available as well as eternal salvation to all who would be faithful to him.

Was He born at this time of our celebration of His birthday? It is doubtful. If you study the Bible carefully, you find another date would probably be more Biblically correct. And, over the years, traditions have developed that set the date. It wasn't until the sixth century AD that an attempt was made to develop a standard calendar for the western church and it was at that time that December 25th was designated as the birth date.

To discuss the date of the Lord's birth historically rather than traditionally, we need to integrate many pieces of data. That includes both the infallible historical facts of Scripture and historical information found in some reliable secular sources. But, is the exact date really that important to us? I doubt it. What is most important is that we celebrate the birth of our Saviour and recognize it is the beginning of a process to save man from his sins. How marvelous. We can look at our calendars and are constantly confronted with His reality...AD..."The year of our Lord."

Jesus stands, alone, as the pivot of human history and we can concentrate and give "Thanks to God for His indescribable gift" whose birth we celebrate on December 25. He is our ONLY Saviour...our Lord.

There are many critics who challenge the validity of Jesus' virgin birth but the Bible is infallible in its rendering of this fact. (See Isaiah 7:14, and 8:1-4; Matthew 1:22-23.)

What a wonderful and dramatic sign would be given in His birth that was far more spectacular than a married woman conceiving and giving birth to a son. Even in the Jewish translation, the word used for virgin is "almah" and it means the same as we understand in the use of the word today. It is a settled issue. If we name the Name of Christ, we believe in his virgin birth...

Jesus came into the world under Caesar Augustus, the first Roman emperor. He was born in Bethlehem of Judea shortly before the death of Herod the Great in 4 B.C...possibly slightly before the traditional date. He was no ordinary child, being of the royal line of David and born of Mary. Angels from heaven proclaimed the good tidings of His birth with songs of praise. Jewish shepherds from the fields and sages from the Far East greeted the Newborn King and Saviour with the homage of believing hearts. Heaven and earth gathered in joyful adoration around the Christ Child. The blessing of this event is renewed from year to year...and this is right. Because of His birth, we have the "WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE." (John 14:6) Systems of human wisdom will come and go...kingdoms and empires will rise and fall, but this fact will ever remain.

Rejoice! Heaven came down and glory fills our souls!

Brother Len Wertz

BORN A CHILD AND YET A KING

Luke 1:31-33, "And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give him unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever: and of his kingdom there shall be no end."

The greatest event of all of history is recorded in our opening verses. Mary, a young virgin, was to conceive in her womb, and bring forth a son, and was instructed to call his name Jesus. There

is great mystery involved in this birth that human intelligence cannot fully comprehend. The one that created the earth, along with the Father and the Holy Spirit, was to become a helpless babe. He who created life was to be "given life." He who created a woman from the rib of a man was to be born of a woman. He who had all power was to become an infant with all the needs associated with this phase of life. (We recognize a distinction between the Father and the Son and reject the "empty heavens" theory, but we also recognize the Scriptural truth that the Father and the Son are one.)

The hymn writer says:

"COME, thou long-expected Jesus!
Born to set the people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the saints thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart."

In one hymnbook the title for this song is given as "To all them that looked for redemption".

The Scripture says "He shall be great." Although He was rejected as such by the masses, the Lord Jesus Christ was truly the King of the Jews. In I Timothy 1:17, we read, "Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen." From the context of the chapter we would conclude that the Apostle Paul is including both God the Father and Jesus Christ our Lord in this benediction of praise.

The scripture goes on to say, "...and shall be called the Son of the Highest." A son of an earthly King is called a Prince. Jesus Christ was also a very special prince, the Prince of Peace. While the Scriptures make it clear that wars will never cease until after the final judgement, we who follow the King of Kings, the Lord of Glory will obey His instructions to live a life of nonresistance.

We are then told, "...and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David." We respect those of our Brethren and others who believe and teach that this is to be an event in the future. However, we believe that Scripture teaches that this took place immediately after the resurrection of our Lord. We quote from Acts 2:29-31. "Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption."

Our opening verses end with, "And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever: and of his kingdom there shall be no end." There are those who teach a postponed kingdom, that Christ will only come to rule and reign in a future kingdom. However, we believe that Jesus Christ reigns today and His Kingdom is the Church.

The second verse of the hymn previously quoted goes like this:

"Born thy children to deliver,
Born a child and yet a king;
Born to reign in us for ever,
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thy own eternal Spirit,
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thy all-sufficient merit,
Raise us to thy glorious throne."

Much more important than when Christ will sit upon the throne of David, is the question, "Is Jesus Christ King of your life?" At this time of the year you will hear more about the babe in the manger than at any other time. But as important as the virgin birth is, the death and resurrection are even more important. Many would like to have the Lord Jesus Christ as a helpless infant. In fact, many so called Christians (God is the final judge) treat Him as such. They take great delight in talking about Him but refuse to allow Him to rule their lives.

The Lord Jesus Christ was truly "born a child and yet a king." He will not share His reign with another. Santa Claus, christmas trees and bright lights are merely an example of hearts that want to share the glory of our Lord with the world all year long. "The spirit of Christmas" replaces the Holy Spirit in the lives of many. This same spirit allows professing Christians to partake of such worldly things as professional sports, movies, television and immodest attire.

Was Jesus Christ born on December the 25th? We do not believe this is the important question. Should we as a church recognize Christmas? Again, we believe there is room for different opinions. Is Jesus Christ to be King 365 days a year? Here there is no room for disagreement. How do we make Him King? We believe the answer must be by accepting His death on the cross and being washed in the blood as is symbolized (along with the resurrection) by trine immersion baptism. Will you not recognize the One "born a child and yet a King" today?

Brother James M. Hite
816 E. Birch St.
Palmyra, PA 17078

THE MIRACLES OF CHRIST AS RECORDED IN GOD'S WORD

2. HEALING OF THE NOBLE MAN'S SON

John 4:46-54

So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee where He made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman whose son was sick at Capernaum. "When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judea into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death. Then said Jesus unto him, Expect ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe. The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die. Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way. And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son liveth. Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him. So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house. This is the second miracle that Jesus did, when he was come out of Judea into Galilee."

Jesus was in Cana from where He healed the nobleman's son, who was in Capernaum.

This miracle teaches us many lessons.

The Nobleman was quite concerned about his son.

He had explicit faith that Jesus could heal him.

Do we manifest such faith in our Saviour?

Twice the Nobleman insisted that Jesus come.

Jesus told him to go his way, that his son was healed.

As he was heading home, his servants met him.

Their message was, "Thy son liveth."

Upon inquiry, it was the same hour in which Jesus said, "Thy son liveth" that the fever left the boy.

Jesus can perform miracles on earth while He is in Heaven.

THIS IS THE SECOND MIRACLE THAT JESUS PERFORMED.

Brother Paul R. Myers
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Canton, Ohio 44718

BE CAREFUL OF THE MEDIA

I Corinthians 1:21, "For after that is the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe."

We are saved by the foolishness of preaching. The Holy Ghost reveals our sin and our need of the Saviour through the preached Word. In the New Testament we have many wonderful examples of preaching and exhortation. Perhaps the greatest example is the entire book of the Hebrews. My two favorites are Stephen's message and Paul's sermon on Mars Hill. There is nothing more spiritually effective than a message from God, and it is an awesome responsibility to those commissioned to preach God's Word.

Those who have been ordained to preach need not be reminded of their need to be constantly in prayer and in the study of the Word. The firstfruits must be given back to God: the best we have for the service of the Master. I am sure that every preacher reading this article is saying to himself, "Help me, Lord," and rightly so. None would argue that he needs God's help. Many hours need to be spent each week in prayer and study, that God would be glorified. There are indeed many other things involved in Christian work: visitation, travel time, family, and the like. These all take up valuable time. Often we do not seem to have enough time for all we must do.

We need to exercise care in those things which influence us. The Dunkard Brethren, and rightly so, have taken an active stand against television and its terrible hold on this world. We also need to recognize the adverse effects that we can receive from radio and recorded music. We have already discussed on these pages the lack of meditation on God's Word because of the constant blaring of radio music, and other things. Indeed, how can we hear the voice of God when we keep trying to drown Him out.

Another concern we have regarding the media, and we also need to include in "media" things such as the daily newspaper, is the abundance of modern thought we find. We cannot afford to allow this modern thought to find its way into our preaching and teaching. We need to be careful of the preachers we listen to because their influence is often very subtle. We used to listen to quite a number of radio preachers. There are very few that hold to the pure gospel. In order to stay on the air they must do all they can to attract an audience. That audience in most cases is what pays the bills. Most people that attend a church contribute at least a little money. This is not so with a radio work. Only a small percentage of listeners contribute. They are more inclined to tickle the ears.

There is doubtless evidence to suggest that radio is useful for news and weather. But it is important to be careful with regard to the ideas and opinions found there. We also need to be concerned regarding its use by our young people. One can easily get caught up in the things of the world, including its wisdom.

Often we forget our purpose in this life. We often forget our allegiances and neglect to consider others when making our choices. Might the Lord help us, and might we be strong in Him.

Brother Lynn H. Miller
RD 2 Box 561
Newmanstown, PA 17073

SIXTY YEARS AGO

December 15, 1932

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST AND SOCIAL REFORM

B.E. Breshears

Is it the work of a church to reform society? Is this the task our Master has given us to achieve? From the scriptures are we led to believe that such a task will be accomplished? What means are to be used to attain this end?

Society: the collective body of people who live in any community or region. Reform: to change to the better; to introduce improvement in or change for the better. Church: "A body of religious people selected and called out of the world by the doctrines of gospel, to worship the true God in Christ according to His word." (1 Cor. 1:2) Other definitions of these words could be given. Probably these would be accepted by most any one in considering this subject.

There is a great urge--a great emphasis placed upon the need for the church to take the lead in work which is variously termed "Social Service," "Social Reconstruction," "Social Regeneration," "Moral Reform," "Civic Righteousness," "World Betterment," "Making the world a fit place to live," and so forth.

So much is said along these lines that if taken seriously one would think this the principle and foremost work to be accomplished by the church. Many ministers and religious teachers seemingly cannot preach a sermon or make an address or teach in any capacity without stressing the need for Christians to lead in such work. The failures of the church in days gone by and of the older preachers and members is pointed to, and young people are urged to wake up and "do something." I fear that the next generation will have even greater cause to talk of failures, if this trend of teaching is followed.

Who is it that has started all this talk? Who is it that concurs most heartily in the need for the church to launch out in this kind of work?

Why is it thought to be preeminently and predominantly the work of the church? A rather solemn situation presents itself if we rightly consider these questions.

Those who do not know or care what is the scripturally revealed reason for the church to be in the world are sometimes the most eloquent about the failures of the church in the past because of her supposed lack of interest in social service. This lack has been pointed out in the secular press generally. It is not uncommon to read what nonchurch members say as to what they think the church should do or not do. They even occasionally express themselves to the preachers as to what kind of sermons they like. Such people are usually willing to help when appealed to by those in the church who will accept their views. Of course they would do this if given a voice in the work and what it shall be. What may eventually happen if the church listens to those not of her communion?

Again there is need for caution. There have arisen many who have departed from the faith, many doubters, many unbelievers who to a greater or less extent have cast off the gospel message. They have repudiated the doctrines of the Bible as to sin, the need even of a Savior, the need of regeneration and complete obedience to New Testament teaching. Many are weaving as to a future state as revealed in the Bible. Hence to the degree of their doubts they have no real gospel message for the church of the storm-tossed and troubled soul in the church or out. Almost to a man these have raised this clamor for social service. They make their appeal to what people can see and feel and enjoy in this life and in this world. Their interest is in "things seen which are temporal" and with little interest in "things not seen which are eternal." Some will even deride and jeer at what they term "other worldliness" or those who would look to things eternal. One of such said; "One world at a time for me." I am reminded of a rather exasperated remark of a life insurance agent who had failed to convince me I ought to take a policy. He said: "We are doing more good than all the preachers in the land." I replied, "We will soon cross the dark river, have you any insurance beyond?"

Just here can be summed up the message of many who have switched to this "social gospel." They have little or nothing to offer which extends beyond the confines of this life. I think we should gravely consider who is loudest in appeals along this line for the church to "do something worth while." If we follow them we may find when too late that we thought worth while will not avail us when we must render our account.

We may question whether very much worthwhile will be accomplished by those who are foremost in advocating this "social gospel" as they are now doing. And why? Simply because they

are themselves sowing the seeds which when developed must not only destroy the stabilizing influence of religion and the church but bring about the disintegration of society. There is nothing which will promote the abandonment of life, delinquency, vice, crime, confusion, lawlessness and anarchy like disbelief in the Bible as the revealed word and will of God. Faith in it is the greatest restraining power. If we believe it not only contains the word of God but that it is the word of God it will keep us back from many presumptuous sins, it will curb the way when we would enter forbidden paths. A vast amount of the confusion, wrong-doing, riot, viciousness, wickedness, is due to the lack of faith in a Supreme Being who will requite for good or evil, and that we shall reap as we sow. Russia perhaps might be cited as an example. If we doubt that there is a future state and retribution awaiting us what wonder if we say "let us eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow we die." If we believe not that God is our creator as the Bible teaches but that we came from the jungles, from the beasts what wonder if we act like beasts or worse.

It is not primarily the aim for the church to make individuals, communities or nations better morally, or to change their views as to certain harmful wrongs in the world. This falls short of the purpose for which Christ came into the world and established His church. It is His will that the world should be saved, but this cannot be accomplished with individuals or with society piece-meal or by correcting certain evils one at a time. Christ's kingdom is not one of the world but is separate and apart and His subjects will only waste their time in efforts to control or direct the affairs of the world. It will be useless to give the people who belong to this world a voice in the church work in exchange for their help in correcting evils in the kingdom of the world. If we expect to direct or dictate to them as to the running the affairs of their kingdom they will ask for the same in running the affairs of Christ's kingdom. It is a give and take proposition and has never worked for the people of God in any age.

The scriptures teach that the kingdoms of this world and those in these kingdoms who "walk according to the course of this world" are ruled by "the Prince and power of the air," and are therefore "without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenant of promise, having no hope and without God in the world." (Eph. 2:2-12)

Being then called out of the world it is the chief duty of the church to do all possible to seek to call from the world as many of the unsaved as can be and to establish them in the Kingdom of Christ. This cannot be done except through faith, repentance and regeneration.

To do her full duty the church need not minimize too much the good she may do to people in this life, but such efforts should be made to fit in and serve as stepping stones to things higher. It is well to try to improve living conditions, promote bodily health and comfort of the people and to use our influence to make better moral conditions. These will help. Paul gives us a thought in a comparative way when he says: "Bodily exercise profiteth little; but godliness is profitable unto all things having promise of life that now is, and of that which is to come." The difference in benefit is as great as time and eternity exceeds our short life. We may well endure a few discomforts if we have promise of that life to come, and all the blessedness the world may offer is comparatively worthless without it.

OBITUARY

MONROE KINTNER

Bro. Monroe Kintner was born in Defiance County, Ohio, August 29, 1907, to Charlie and Josephine (Yoxtheimer) Kintner. He passed from this life at 5:30 p.m. on November 17, 1992, at the age of 85 years.

When he was a boy of eleven, Monroe's family moved to a farm in the Flora, Indiana area. He later felt the call of God, accepted the Lord into his heart and was baptized into the Bachelor Run Church of the Brethren. He later transferred his membership to the Plevna Dunkard Brethren Church.

On March 29, 1929, Monroe married Lydia Smith. To this union were born four children: Paul Edward, Ruthanna, Mildred and Richard. Baby Richard was stillborn in 1947. Paul Edward was killed in a car accident at 18 years of age in 1949.

Monroe had a sincere concern for his family and was a supportive and encouraging influence to his family. He was a concerned and loving father and demonstrated his love and concern in many ways.

Monroe and Lydia made numerous trips to Torreon Navajo Mission in New Mexico. Throughout the mission compound are many expressions of his faith which was practiced in meaningful ways. Evidences of his handiwork are also found in Navajo homes in the Torreon area.

Prior to going to the hospital for surgery, Monroe requested that he be anointed. The family takes comfort in the statements he made at that time. He said he was at peace with God and his fellowman. "I don't hold anything against anybody and I want my heart to be clean" was one of his last statements.

Monroe is survived by his wife of 63 years, Lydia; two daughters, Ruthanna Lilly and Mildred Skiles; six grandchildren, Marie, Marilyn, Mary, Paul, Marsha and Tena; nine great-grandchildren, one step great grandchild and one sister, Beth Smith. Two brothers, Henry and Frank, and two sisters, Mae Johnson and Fanny Carter, preceded him in death.

The family wishes to express their thanks for the many expressions of kindness and sympathy shown during his hospital stay and death.

MONROE

He always had a ready smile.
His eyes with laughter glowed.
This friend we've known for a lifetime,
We called him by "Monroe."

He never was real fretful
With rushing to and fro.
He'd always have you sit a spell
And hear the tales he told.

He had a gentle spirit,
And served his Lord above.
His life was such a witness
Of Christ's unselfish love.

So now our friend has left us
To walk the streets of gold,
But we always will remember
Our friend we called "Monroe."

-Written by Martha Heer
November 20, 1992

NEWS ITEMS

LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

God has blessed us with another revival. Bro. Ray Stuber brought forth the Word in sincerity and truth. We thank the Lord for the working of the Holy Spirit. Melissa Johns, daughter of Bro. David and Sis. Marilyn Johns received Christ as her Savior. There were six precious souls made their wants known to have a closer walk with the Lord.

Would we be more blessed and see more souls won to the church if there was more obedience to the Lord and the church? How obedient are we? I Samuel 15:23, "For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry..." Can we see how serious it is? Where there is obedience there will be unity and unity brings strength and power.

Sister Dorcas Myers, Cor.

GREETINGS

Greetings to each reader of the Bible Monitor:

I will be 89 years old February 27, 1993. Due to a stroke I can no longer read, write, walk, and have very poor eyesight. I can only get about with the assistance of a wheelchair, walker, or personal help. The doctors say I can't expect to do any better. I thank the Lord that He saved my Life.

I have enjoyed writing for the Bible Monitor over a long period of time, but now I must lay down my pen. I think the Editor has a few more articles that I wrote ahead.

In my condition, many of my articles came to a sudden halt. Throughout my lifetime, God has been good to me. I have been a member of the Church and in His service 75 years. I appreciate personal mail even if I cannot answer it. I cannot write legibly. I can no longer operate a typewriter. I appreciate hearing from over the Brotherhood.

Work and pray that our church will accomplish the purpose of her being placed on this earth. If we trust and obey the Lord, He will care for our future.

Because I cannot write to you, please do not fail to write to me. God bless each of you, and may you enjoy a spiritual and joyous holiday season.

Your Brother,

Paul R. Myers

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JANUARY 1993

January 3 - Preaching of John the Baptist - Matthew 3:1-17.

1. Is there significance to John's clothing?
2. How did John's message prepare "the way of the Lord"?

January 10 - Jesus Tempted in the Wilderness - Matthew 4:1-11.

1. Why was it necessary for Jesus to be tempted?
2. How did Jesus deal with Satan's temptations?

January 17 - Preaching, Healing, Calling - Matthew 4:12-25.

1. How did Christ begin His ministry?
2. What type of men did Jesus call as disciples?

January 24 - The Beatitudes - Matthew 5:1-12.

1. Define "Beatitudes."
2. Ponder the conditions to their promises.

January 31 - "But I Say Unto You" - Matthew 5:13-48.

1. Compare Christ's "new way" with the Law.
2. How is II Corinthians 3:16 foundational to Christ's better way?

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JANUARY 1993

January 3 - The Beginning - Genesis 1, John 1:1-5.

1. How are the facts of Creation foundational to our faith?
2. Do you look to God for help "in the beginning" of each life's needs?

January 10 - Paradise - Luke 23: 39-43, I Cor. 12:1-4, Rev. 2:1-7.

1. What is paradise?
2. How is paradise reached?

January 17 - Peace - Psalms 4:4-8, Luke 1:76-80, John 14:1-6; 27.

1. Define peace.
2. What conditions allow peace in our life?

January 24 - The Ethiopian Eunuch - Acts 8:26-40.

1. What was the eunuch seeking?
2. What was the key to his new found joy?

January 31 - The Carpenter's Son - Matthew 13: 53-58, Mark 6:1-5.

1. Why did God choose to have Christ born to a lowly family?
2. How did His humble birth affect His acceptance by the Jews?